

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO CAMPBELLSVILLE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Campbellsville University Women's Volleyball Team for their outstanding performance this season. While the team's record-setting 38 wins constitute a monumental achievement in their own right, the fact that the Campbellsville University Volley Tigers won the team's—and the university's—first NCCAA National Championship is truly a testament to their exceptional effort and indomitable spirit.

The Lady Tigers' extraordinary commitment to academic and athletic excellence has not only distinguished them as role-models for their community, but has also earned Campbellsville University the national attention it so richly deserves. It is fitting, then, that the Volley Tigers' tremendous success aptly demonstrates not only their own exacting standards of excellence, but those of the university itself.

In addition to Coach Randy LeBleu and Assistant Coach Amy Eckenfels, I would like to commend the members of the team, Caitlin Dresing, Brooke Marcum, Lilian DaSilva, Tierra Wilham, Lilian Odek, Caroline Martin, Samantha James, Shannon Cahill, Christiana Sindehar, and seniors Jovana Koprivica, Whitney Haynes and Renee Netherton, on their outstanding success. I wish them nothing but the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING SERGEANT BENTON THAMES FOR HIS EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS COMMANDER OF THE RELIEF AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

HON. BILL CASSIDY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Sergeant Benton Thames from the Town of Springfield in Louisiana's Sixth's Congressional District. It gives me great pleasure to extend to Sergeant Thames immense gratitude and appreciation for his exemplary service to our country as Commander of the Relief at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

Sergeant Thames has dutifully guarded the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier for over two years. His responsibilities include changing of the guard and laying of the wreath at the Tomb. Sergeant Thames strives to make this

ceremony special for the thousands of veterans and Americans who visit this sacred landmark annually. Sergeant Thames' dedicated service and commitment to our brave and courageous veterans and fallen heroes is truly admirable.

Sergeant Thames is a graduate of Springfield High School, and a former resident of Louisiana's Sixth Congressional District. In his spare time, Sergeant Thames volunteers with the Louisiana Honor Air program which aides World War II veterans in a variety of ways. I am honored by Sergeant Thames' service to our country and wish him continued success as Commander of the Relief at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF DR. WILLIAM HENRY "BILL" COSBY JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Dr. William Henry "Bill" Cosby Jr.—a husband, a father, a renowned entertainer, and an activist who has recently been selected to receive the Kennedy Center's 12th Annual Mark Twain Prize for American Humor. His contributions as an author, writer, actor, singer, comedian, and television producer span every facet of the entertainment industry and his work is beloved around the world.

In 1961, Mr. Cosby was the first African American to win the coveted Emmy award for his work on the TV show, "I Spy." Since then, Mr. Cosby has garnered numerous awards for excellence in the performing arts including the Golden Globe, a People's Choice award, and Grammy and Emmy awards. His natural comedic talent was first noticed in college when he attended Temple University and worked as a bartender. His quick wit and laid-back style easily drew others to him, including the legendary producer and director Carl Reiner. During his successful career in entertainment, Mr. Cosby remained committed to education, eventually earning a doctorate degree in Education from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Mr. Cosby is a rare comedic genius. He is intelligent, creative and never relies on profanity. His popular stand-up comedy performances are drawn from personal experiences such as a childhood spent on the streets of Philadelphia and his experiences as husband and a father. His thought provoking performances feature themes of family, love and human fallibilities. In addition to stand-up, his work in television is well known. He worked on hits including the "Electric Company," the animated comedy "Fat Albert and The Cosby Kids" and starred as Dr. Heathcliff Huxtable, the affable, educated and loving father on the hit comedy "The Cosby Show." Mr. Cosby's

work explored challenging family issues softened by comedy. His impact on children and young adults is immeasurable. Even today, Dr. Huxtable continues to be the most beloved television father of all time. Moreover, Mr. Cosby continues to be a mentor and voice of empowerment in urban and black communities. He uplifts and inspires young and old through public forums, music, humor and song. He continues to educate and encourage involvement based on the principles of family unity, community involvement and personal responsibility.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor and recognition of Dr. William Henry "Bill" Cosby. Mr. Cosby's brilliant artistry, unwavering activism and volunteer spirit continue to lighten hearts and enlighten minds by bringing hope and laughter to millions. Mr. Cosby has made and continues to make our nation and our world a better place.

PERMANENT ESTATE TAX RELIEF FOR FAMILIES, FARMERS, AND SMALL BUSINESSES ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4154, a bill that would cut taxes for millionaires at a time when Americans are struggling to hold on to their paychecks, their homes, and their dignity.

Today, one in ten Americans is out of work, one in eight Americans is receiving food assistance, and one in six of our children is living in poverty. With such need in this nation, Congress's primary mission must be to create jobs and strengthen economic security for the American people. When Congress convened in January, the economy was losing 20,000 jobs each day, and we took decisive action to avert the freefall of the economy and to set it on the path to recovery. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act made critical investments in our communities, infrastructure, education, and clean energy, and has so far created or saved as many as 1.6 million jobs.

As a result of this decisive action by Congress, the most recent Department of Labor jobs report showed that this country lost 587,000 fewer jobs in November 2009 than January 2009. While a significant improvement over the numbers at the beginning of this year, it is clear that this recession is still exacting a devastating toll. Congress must keep its focus on creating jobs. Legislation is urgently needed to provide assistance to prepare workers to fill occupations like nursing which have a shortage of skilled workers, to invest in new job-creating technologies, and to encourage the next generation of entrepreneurs to produce the new ventures and products that will ensure that the American economy returns to its preeminent position in the world.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

This legislation does not help the millions of Americans in need nor does it set the right priorities for this country. In such dire economic times with the largest budget deficit in this nation's history, this Congress does not have the luxury of bestowing this tax cut of a quarter-trillion dollars on millionaires.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill that helps only millionaires, and to turn their focus towards the problems of those Americans who are in economic crisis or could shortly be confronted with painful financial decisions if this economy does not start improving its employment outlook.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Chair, last fall, after 8 years of the previous administration looking the other way while Wall Street and the big banks exploited loopholes, we faced a near collapse of our financial system. Deregulation and lax oversight allowed Wall Street and big banks to gamble with the hard-earned money of the American people, compromising our savings and risking our future. Over the last year, Congress has had to make difficult, and frankly unpopular, decisions that were necessary to rescue our economy from the brink of disaster.

The Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act will put in place the rules to make sure that this doesn't happen again, to protect the middle-class Americans who play by the rules from the consequences of Wall Street greed. This legislation ends many of the unfair lending practices that created predatory mortgages and waves of foreclosure. By stopping "too big to fail" firms before they threaten to wreak havoc on our economy, H.R. 4173 will finally put an end to the era of taxpayer-funded bailouts.

While many aspects of this legislation are important, perhaps its most significant achievement is the establishment of an agency whose primary mission is to ensure the safety of financial products and look out for consumers. For too long, all of our fractured regulatory agencies have only looked out for the financial institutions they work for. The Consumer Financial Protection Agency will look out for unsafe financial products the same way the FDA monitors unsafe medicines or the Consumer Product Safety Commission examines our children's toys.

While we have taken extraordinary actions to correct our economic crisis, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection act takes the necessary actions to hold accountable the people responsible for last year's crisis and to prevent another crisis in the future.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DENNIS SANDLIN

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Doctor Dennis Sandlin, a Kentucky physician who lost his life, standing fast in the face of danger to practice ethical and responsible medicine in a medically underserved region, inundated with poverty and drug addiction.

On December 8, 2009, Doctor Sandlin was tragically murdered in front of nurses and staff at the Leatherwood-Blackey Medical Clinic in Perry County, Kentucky. Doctor Sandlin routinely refused to give doctor-shopping drug seekers a prescription for pain pills without passing proper evaluation. He refused to allow his practice to be part of the drug epidemic, although many physicians in the past have given in to fear of demands and threats by drug seekers across the region. After being denied narcotics for a second time that morning, a patient returned to Doctor Sandlin's office and fatally shot him in the head.

Doctor Sandlin returned home to Perry County, after graduating from the University of Louisville's School of Medicine, to provide healthcare to less fortunate individuals. He served generations of families for 28 years until his untimely death. Doctor Sandlin's medical practice may be over, but his style of practice will live on as the pinnacle of good medicine.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in memory of Doctor Dennis Sandlin. In my opinion, he died a hero. Every physician, pharmacist, law enforcement official, medical and pharmacy student can learn from Doctor Sandlin's tenacity to practice responsible medicine and never give place to fear.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 939, 940, 942, 943, and 945 I was absent from the House.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. BUYER. Madam Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 4173 because it does not

exempt the VA's very successful Loan Guaranty program from regulation under the provisions of this bill. The saying, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it," applies. The VA guaranteed loans are not experiencing the high rates of delinquency and foreclosure like those backed by FHA. VA, to its credit, recognized the risks inherent in easing underwriting standards and stayed out of the subprime market.

According to the September 30, 2009 National Delinquency Survey conducted by Mortgage Bankers Association, VA-backed home mortgages are experiencing significantly lower delinquency and foreclosure rates than any other government-backed programs. For example, as of September 30, the delinquency rate for all subprime mortgages was over 28 percent. FHA-backed loans show about a 14.4 percent delinquency rate while only about 8.1 percent of VA loans were delinquent. More ominously, 24.7 percent of subprime loans were in foreclosure (VA quite wisely does not guarantee subprime loans), and 3.3 percent of FHA loans had reached the foreclosure stage but only about 2.3 percent of VA loans were being foreclosed. These differences due to VA's stewardship and the Veterans Affairs Committee's oversight amount to tens of millions of dollars in savings to the taxpayers.

Madam Chair, the provisions of H.R. 4173 would clearly apply to the VA's Loan Guaranty program. For example, in defining the scope and functions covered by the bill, section 4002 excludes only the "Secretary of the Treasury and any agency or bureau under the jurisdiction of the Secretary." That means VA loan guaranty programs are subject to the provisions of the bill. Further in the definitions of "Financial Activity", it includes extending credit. VA has a small direct loan program used to sell their foreclosed properties. The bill's definitions also cover collecting consumer data. VA does that. VA also sells mortgage-based securities on the secondary market. Such activities are covered in the definitions section. The definitions also cover VA's contracts for portfolio servicing, including sales and maintenance of its foreclosed properties. Finally, VA-guaranteed loans offered by lenders would be subject to the jurisdiction of the CPRA rules and regulations.

There are a couple of reasons why VA's loan guaranty program is outperforming the non-VA sector. First, the House Veterans Affairs Committee has oversight of the program and works hard to ensure the program is conducted in a manner that does not stray into products like subprime loans. Second, VA did not reduce its underwriting standards, and the combination of its higher standards along with servicing programs to assist veterans experiencing difficulty, has allowed VA to be a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

My understanding of this mammoth 1,300 page bill is that the new bureaucracies and czars and whatever else is hidden in the bill will have the ability to affect how the VA loan guaranty programs are offered. Additionally, the broad language in the bill which allows the CFPA the discretion to define its own powers is at best short-sighted and at worst Orwellian. I am reminded that absolute power corrupts absolutely. Moreover, by placing additional tax burdens on financial institutions, many of which invest in mortgage securities offered on the secondary market, mortgage rates will go up. That is exactly what the VA's Loan Guaranty program, or the housing market at large,

does not need because the secondary market is a major source of new lending resources as well as a \$200 million dollar revenue stream to the Treasury.

Madam Chair, I didn't think it was possible to concoct a bill that was even more opaque and unintelligible than the majority's healthcare bill. Well, I was wrong. The majority has succeeded in grand fashion to foist yet another financial disaster in-the-making on the American public, one designed not to ensure stability in the markets, but to make financial markets subject to political intrusion and manipulation. We have seen what political pressure to expand access to credit to those whose incomes would not normally have qualified them for a mortgage did to the housing market. Let's not make this same mistake with veterans. In summary, the VA loan guaranty program has been well-managed and does not need the regulation and supervision under H.R. 4173 would allow.

I urge all of my colleagues to oppose H.R. 4173 and I yield back.

**ALLEGHANY COUNTY RESIDENTS
HONORED BY NORTH CAROLINA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR SES-
QUICENTENNIAL CELEBRA-
TIONS—12-10-09**

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to praise the citizens of Alleghany County for recently winning a number of awards from the North Carolina Historical Society for the promotion and production of the celebration of Alleghany's Sesquicentennial.

The Alleghany Historical Genealogical Society and a local business, Imaging Specialists, took home awards for a number of multimedia productions that were used to promote Alleghany's 150th anniversary.

Imaging Specialists also took home the coveted President's Award for the leading role the business took in designing and producing historical projects over the past year.

Local residents Ernest Joines, Janice Alexander, Avin Joines and Jane Furlow each received honors from the state historical society for work ranging from a compilation of local music to a quilt design depicting area scenery.

All told the state Historical Society handed out a dozen different awards to these groups and individuals for the excellence demonstrated in the promotion of Alleghany County's Sesquicentennial events earlier this year. These much-deserved awards were the product of long hours of hard work. I applaud each winner for their dedication to their community and for their vision to produce such a fine celebration of Alleghany County's history.

**IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
CHARLES BURKE**

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Charlie

Burke upon the occasion of his retirement from Baldwin-Wallace College after nearly fifty years of dedicated teaching, service, and leadership.

Professor Burke taught his first course in American Government and Politics in 1961. Since coming to Baldwin-Wallace in 1970, he has continued to teach and develop the course. He also crafted over a dozen other courses that critically analyze domestic and international politics.

Through both his curricular and extra-curricular leadership positions, Professor Burke was instrumental in making Baldwin-Wallace College an internationally-recognized, liberal-arts institution of higher learning. Equally importantly, Professor Burke demonstrated commitment to students. He connected with and mentored students in order to facilitate learning and leadership in informal ways.

Professor Burke is one of only two students from his high school class to attend college. He also enlisted in the army at age 17 and served in the demilitarized zone in Korea. With help from the GI Bill, Professor Burke studied at Boston University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the University of Massachusetts.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Charlie Burke, who has academically and personally helped better the lives of his students.

**TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT RICK
LAMPE**

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Sergeant Rick Lampe on the occasion of his retirement from the Iowa State Patrol.

For the last 35 years, Sgt. Lampe has served Iowa faithfully and honorably. He first served four years with the sheriff's office in Waverly, Iowa before serving 31 years with the Iowa State Patrol. In 1979, he began his career with the Iowa State Patrol in Ogden, Iowa, where he plans to enjoy his retirement. Six and a half years ago, Sgt. Lampe was promoted to sergeant. Since 1993, he has provided security for Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY's biannual Ambassador's Tour across Iowa. Sgt. Lampe and his wife, Julie, have raised two sons, Nate and Nick and are blessed with three grandchildren.

Times have certainly changed during Sgt. Lampe's time in the Iowa State Patrol, even in the past ten years. In 1999, Sgt. Lampe's six county district had 47 officers working the area. Today there are only 26 officers working the same area. When he began, patrol officers did not spend significant time in training, but now nearly half of a patrol officer's time is training. There also have been many technological advances such as in-car computers that have helped simplify parts of the job throughout the years.

Sgt. Lampe's bravery and dedication in the Iowa State Patrol goes above and beyond what we are asked of as citizens of this country and has earned him the respect of his peers. I commend Sgt. Rick Lampe for his many years of loyalty and outstanding service in protecting Iowans and serving his commu-

nity. It has been an immense honor to represent Sgt. Lampe in Congress, and I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in wishing him all the best as he embarks on this new journey.

**RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT
ROGER COWART—SCOTTSDALE
HEALTHCARE'S "SALUTE TO
MILITARY" HONOREE**

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a member of the Armed Forces from my home state of Arizona. Each month, Scottsdale Healthcare honors servicemembers who perform diligent service to this country. For the month of December, they have recognized retired Master Sergeant Roger Cowart.

I commend Scottsdale Healthcare for paying tribute to such an outstanding servicemember for his bravery and service to our country.

Mr. Cowart served more than 25 years as a medic in the United States Air Force. He distinguished himself in the performance of outstanding service to the United States in numerous duties, culminating as Flight Chief, Pediatrics, 48th Medical Operations Squadron, 48th Medical Group, 48th Fighter Wing, and Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England.

As an Independent Duty Medical Technician, he provided medical care and practitioner mentoring in the most austere conditions. He is now a member of Scottsdale Healthcare's prestigious Military Training Partnership Team. As the technician for the high-tech simulation lab, he expertly uses his military and medical experience to create realistic trauma training scenarios. This training gives military medical personnel an excellent idea of what to expect when deployed to a war zone and ensures that the men and women who accept the call to duty receive the best care possible.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing this Airman's outstanding contributions and for serving our country and protecting the lives of his fellow service men and women.

**SPECIAL AGENT SAMUEL HICKS
FAMILIES OF FALLEN HEROES
ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2711, the FBI Families of Fallen Heroes Act. This legislation would ensure the families of our FBI Fallen Heroes are properly cared for and that the final remains of the fallen heroes are treated with the honor and respect they are due. The government would fully fund the transportation and relocation expenses of the immediate family members of FBI employees who have given their lives in the line of duty. This will allow the family members to relocate from their

spouse's last FBI assignment location to their hometown. In addition, the expenses of preparing and transporting the remains of the deceased to their final places of interment will be provided by the federal government.

For over a century the FBI's primary goal has been to protect and defend the United States against terrorist and foreign intelligence threats, to uphold and enforce the criminal laws of the United States, and to provide leadership and criminal justice services to federal, state, municipal, and international agencies and partners.

To accomplish these goals, the FBI has 56 field offices, 400 satellite offices, 62 international offices, and 14 legal attaché offices. With investigative programs including counterterrorism, cybercrime, civil rights, and organized crime, the FBI must continually update their techniques, strategies, and programs. FBI Special Agents and Professional Staff are rotated through these many offices to continue their training and to fill the FBI's staffing needs and investigative priorities.

Proof of their success is clearly shown in the 2006 indictment, arrest, and conviction of Fadl Mohamad Maatouk, a resident of Orange Park, Florida who was convicted of conspiracy to provide material support to Hezbollah. The FBI has also been instrumental in the investigations of the Oklahoma City bombing, multiple World Trade Center attacks, the assault on the USS Cole, and the attacks of 9/11.

These successes come at a price beyond the dangers in the field. FBI families, like military families, are under a great deal of stress. When a person chooses to serve in the FBI, every family member is affected. Every person experiences not just the benefits but also the downsides—the relocations, the long periods of separation, the not knowing if your spouse, dad or mom is in danger. Spouses and children must make new friends, enter new schools, find new employment, and try to adjust to new environs almost every three years. They do this while always knowing that their loved one, who has chosen to help defend the country, could be in the line of fire—maybe not today, but maybe tomorrow. It is a burden the family shoulders. I believe this legislation will in some small way lighten that load.

FBI agents and other employees make a choice to engage in a career that is vital to our national security. They understand that there are dangers, but still they make the choice to do their part to defend our country. My colleagues and I in the House unanimously agreed to this legislation because I believe we must honor those who have served and paid the ultimate price.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my vote recorded on the House floor on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, due to inclement weather that kept me from flying back from Wisconsin in time for votes. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 3288 (Rollcall No. 931), H. Con. Res. 199 (Rollcall No. 932), H. Con. Res. 206 (Rollcall No. 933),

H. Res. 940 (Rollcall No. 934), H. Res. 845 (Rollcall No. 935), H.R. 2278 (Rollcall No. 936), H. Res. 915 (Rollcall No. 937), and H. Res. 907 (Rollcall No. 938).

A TRIBUTE TO SAN SAN LEE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of violinist San San Lee.

San San Lee was born in Taipei, Taiwan and raised in Michigan and Wisconsin since the age of one. Ms. Lee received a Bachelor of Music degree from the Oberlin College Conservatory in Oberlin, Ohio and a Masters of Music degree from the Juilliard School on scholarships.

As a winner of the Oberlin Concerto competition, her performance of the entire Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Oberlin Orchestra was broadcast on WOBC and classical station WCLV-Cleveland. Ms. Lee toured as a member of the Juilliard Orchestra in Japan, China and Hong Kong which included live radio and television broadcasts. Her primary teachers included Margery Aber, Dorothy Mauney, Stephen Clapp and Joseph Fuchs. She also studied at Moscow's Tchaikovsky Conservatory with Sergei Kravchenko and Eduard Grach during their International Summer Festival and with Serban Lupu at the International Summer Festival in Todi, Italy.

As a winner of the Artists International Auditions, Ms. Lee performed her debut recital at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall and was further invited to perform on their Alumni winners series. By invitation, she also performed a recital on the "Live from the Elvehem" series that was broadcast live on Wisconsin Public Radio in Madison, WI. Her numerous solo and chamber performances took place at Lincoln Center's Bruno Walter Auditorium, Merkin Hall, The American Landmark Festival, Harvard Club, The United Nations Auditorium, U-Penn, Texas Christian University, Louisiana State University, amongst others. Her solo & chamber performances span throughout the United States, Europe, Russia, and Eastern Europe. Ms. Lee has been invited as violin clinician teaching at Suzuki violin, chamber workshops and institutes nationwide. She teaches privately and has recently joined the violin faculty at the Riverdale Country School. Ms. Lee has been a member of the violin faculties at the School for Strings since 1990 and at Juilliard's Music Advancement Program since 1991, serving as their first departmental strings chair.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing a renowned violinist, San San Lee.

IN HONOR OF THE BRIDGEVILLE FIRE COMPANY

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute

to the Bridgeville Fire Company for 100 years of outstanding service to the people of Delaware. The importance of emergency fire and medical services within our communities cannot be emphasized enough. I am proud to represent a state that is home to such selfless and dedicated firefighters, EMTs, and service volunteers as those of the Bridgeville Fire Company in Bridgeville, Delaware.

The Bridgeville Fire Company was born from a tradition of strong community involvement, and the Company has kept that tradition alive through the years. The fire department was organized on December 14, 1909 in the old Opera House. Ira Lewis, William E. Dimes, and Howard E. Hardesty were appointed to secure the necessary membership to incorporate what is known today as the Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. Over the next 12 months, plans were drawn and approved for the first building, at a cost of \$1,100. Since then, the Bridgeville Fire Company has steadily grown into a pillar of strength within the community.

A century later, I would like to recognize and honor all the current and former members of the Bridgeville Fire Department for their service to our community, including: President Allen Parsons; Vice President Steve McCarron; Secretary John Tomeski, Sr; Treasurer Pete Stephens and Fire Recorder Malhon Baker. Their efforts inspire others and I am honored to highlight the positive influence that they have had throughout Delaware and beyond.

On this anniversary I would also like to once again commend the Bridgeville Fire Company for 100 years of exceptional service. The bravery and hard work of its members past and present and of its dedicated ladies auxiliary make Delaware a safer place to live, and I wish them all the best on this momentous occasion.

HONORING BEECH HIGH SCHOOL BUCCANEERS ON WINNING THE 2009 TSSAA CLASS 5A STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2009 Beech High School Buccaneers for winning the TSSAA Class 5A State Football Championship.

I commend Beech High School Head Coach Anthony Crabtree and Assistant Coaches Jim Campbell, Darrell Keen, Patrick Duffer, Keith Powell, Kerry Jackson, Ryan Harris, Cody Brummett, and Principal Frank Cardwell.

These young men completed their season by defeating the Columbia Lions in a 47-33 win in the Blue Cross Bowl on Friday, December 4. The hard work and dedication this season brought the Buccaneers to the school's first state championship. Max Zinchini, Junior, was the defensive MVP with five tackles and two interceptions.

I congratulate each player of the 2009 5A State Champion Buccaneer Team: Dwayne Fleming, Daniel Richardson, Lincoln Kenitzer, Max Zinchini, Deshaun Tarkington, Taylor Peoples, Jarod Neal, Justin Cherry, Brock

Haley, Jay Huff, Conner Jett, Ponciano Cobb, Tony Newsom, Hunter Allison, Daniel Payne, Travis Haymer, Ethan Walker, Jason Brooks, Jonathan Sites, Dakota Deno, Hunter Stewart, Charles Metcalfe, Devonte Cobb, Clayton Ream, Malik Lewis, Jeffrey Hunter, Taylor Cash, Dante Paige, Alex Gomer, Dustin Bailey, Marquis Kingcade, Michael Santifer, Kyle Mortensen, Marquel Harold, Wesley Aiello, Camden Dalton, Jason Hunter, Brian Montgomery, Cody Winford, Justin Toro, Payton Schneider, Rob Hamilton, J.T. Barnes, Cole Nabors, Kyle Anderson, Zach Rumsey, Kevin Kline, John Stillman, Eric Buchanan, Jared Barfield, Christian Martinez, Ryan Turner, Jamey Howell, Jayden Maddox, Josh Knight, Alec Willett, Trey Barnfield, Trey Ralph, Drew Chaffee and Managers Austin Young, Chris Whited, and Lamont Sneed.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Chair, H.R. 4173, The Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009, presents a host of new financial rules and regulations and even establishes a new Federal agency, with an advertised goal of minimizing the risk of a future economic crisis like the one we've seen over the past 2 years. But Congress could go a long way toward preventing such damaging boom and bust cycles by changing its existing mandate for one of the most important stewards of our economy: the Federal Reserve. The Humphrey Hawkins Full Employment Act of 1978 directed the Fed to focus on two goals that are often at odds: maximizing employment over the short-run while guaranteeing price stability over the long-term. This dual mandate has put the Fed in an impossible situation with regard to managing the economy. Multiple goals that may sometimes be in conflict can increase the chance of an important miscalculation. Monetary policy, in fact, played a key role in this latest economic crisis. The Federal Reserve held interest rates too low for too long earlier this decade, sparking an expansion of credit that fueled a housing bubble that eventually burst and caused an all-out crisis. As we emerge from this recession, I fear that we may be on the cusp of yet another damaging cycle. If the Fed is too slow to act in withdrawing its substantial stimulus as the economy recovers, we will end up with a nasty bout of inflation in the coming years. And the Fed would then have to slam on the brakes and hike interest rates to wring inflation out of the system, costing growth and jobs in the process.

We need to stop this roller coaster ride. That is why I offered an amendment to this bill that would repeal the Humphrey Hawkins Act

and make price stability the Fed's sole mandate. This change is meant to re-focus the Fed on its core mission and make sure that we get one of the key fundamentals of the economy right. Price stability, after all, is a necessary precondition for economic growth, job creation and sound money. A focused and clear mandate from Congress would also increase the Fed's transparency and accountability at a time when many are seeking more information about the actions of our central bank. Unfortunately, my amendment was not made in order by the Rules Committee.

In response to the recent crisis, the Fed has had to take a variety of unorthodox measures to stabilize our credit markets and resuscitate the economy. Many in Congress have felt unease as the Fed has taken emergency actions to rescue individual companies and launch a variety of new credit facilities for an increasing number of banks, financial institutions and even investors. I share this unease and I believe that Congress should have the ability to gather information about these actions and new facilities, with appropriate safeguards and time lags. But I also believe that we must preserve the existing restrictions on opening up monetary policy deliberations and actions to a government audit. Even the appearance of politicians gaining some measure of influence over monetary policy decisions could have disastrous consequences. Political independence is not simply a luxury for our central bank. It is a core principle of good economic policy that yields real benefits for the American people. A number of empirical studies have shown that countries with independent central banks tend to have steadier economic growth and low and stable rates of inflation. This is not surprising. Just as politicians involved in fiscal policy have a bias toward greater spending, monetary policy influenced by politics would have a bias toward looser credit over the short term and therefore higher rates of inflation over the longer term. Financial markets would immediately recognize this and push up our borrowing rates and further weaken our currency.

As we move forward in this process of financial regulatory reform, Congress should strive for robust oversight of the Fed, but it must guard against political interference. In the end, an independent Federal Reserve with a clear and focused single mandate is the best way to achieve the desirable ends of sustainable economic growth, job creation, and low inflation.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF JOANN C. TADLOCK

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I have the privilege of representing the wonderful people of the third district of North Carolina, which includes hundreds of military families and civilians that work for our military.

Today, I would like to honor one such civilian—Mrs. Joann C. Tadlock will retire from the Naval Air Systems Command, Fleet Readiness Center East, Cherry Point, North Carolina on February 3, 2010.

Mrs. Tadlock's distinguished government career spans over 31 years, a career that is full

of achievements and accolades that greatly reflect upon her and upon the organizations with which she has served.

In April of 1978, Mrs. Tadlock began her Federal career as a Clerk for the Department of the Interior, holding progressively responsible administrative positions within the Department of the Interior and the Naval Air Systems Command.

Mrs. Tadlock returned to school and earned her bachelor's and master's degrees and became a Personnel Management and Equal Employment Opportunity Intern.

Mrs. Tadlock subsequently served as the principal classifier for the Human Resources Office, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point and has most recently served as Total Force leader and Navy's Multi-Trade expert in supporting the Fleet's best interests.

Madame Speaker, I am very proud of Mrs. Joann Tadlock and I thank her on her many years of service to our great nation and our military. Her contributions to the Department of Navy will be missed as she moves forward to new and exciting opportunities.

I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Joann Tadlock on such an extraordinary career.

Mrs. Tadlock epitomizes the dedication and professionalism that make our Federal government a model all over the world.

God bless Joann, all of our troops, and may God continue to bless America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TRANSPARENCY IN CORPORATE MONITORS ACT OF 2009

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce legislation today that will provide guidance and prevent abuse in the appointment of corporate monitors to implement deferred and nonprosecution agreements.

Last Congress, the Judiciary Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law led the charge against the politicization of United States Attorneys' Offices in the last Administration. Additionally, both last year and this year, the Subcommittee held hearings on deferred and nonprosecution agreements in criminal cases against corporate defendants, and the selection of corporate monitors to implement those agreements. Those hearings, as well as recent press articles, revealed the need for guidelines to govern the appointment of corporate monitors in these cases.

The Government's use of deferred and nonprosecution agreements as a prosecutorial tool with respect to corporate defendants has grown exponentially in recent years. Unfortunately, the selection and use of corporate monitors to implement those agreements has been tainted by a disturbing lack of guidance, and even more troubling indications of abuse.

In one case, a former U.S. Attorney—Christopher Christie—selected former Attorney General John Ashcroft to serve as a corporate monitor, for which Mr. Ashcroft collected fees of up to \$52 million. The circumstances surrounding his appointment and service as a monitor were not made public at the time of his selection and other than the hearings the

Commercial and Administrative Law Subcommittee held on the issue—no provision was ever made for oversight or accountability concerning Mr. Ashcroft's selection or performance as a monitor.

To prevent such reckless abuse from taking place in the future, I have introduced legislation that will prohibit United States attorneys and assistant United States attorneys from acting as or working for corporate monitors for specified periods after their service with the Government terminates. This legislation will provide accountability, transparency, and uniformity in the appointment of corporate monitors to implement deferred and nonprosecution agreements.

Public trust and confidence are essential elements of an effective justice system—our laws and their enforcement must not only be fair, but they must also be perceived as fair. The perception of unfairness and favoritism undermines governmental authority in the justice process. My legislation will help restore fairness and rebuild trust in our public process.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLIE MELANCON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. MELANCON. Madam Chair, I rise today on behalf of thousands of families in Louisiana and across the nation who have been devastated by the fraud of Allen Stanford and his financial companies.

Earlier this year, men and women who had played by the rules and worked hard to prepare for retirement and their children's futures learned that they had been cheated out of a lifetime of savings.

While we continue in our efforts to make these families whole, we have a responsibility to ensure that this kind of fraud never again happens in the United States. The investor protections included in H.R. 4173, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act are a monumental step toward this goal.

One thing we have learned through this tragedy is that the greed of criminals like Stanford is matched only by the danger of deregulation. The Securities and Exchange Commission, which was designed to prevent this very situation, is deeply flawed. The bill we are now considering reforms the agency and strengthens its authority to effectively and forcefully protect investors and our securities markets.

In addition, the bill creates incentives for whistleblowers to expose crooks like Stanford. Through a new whistleblower bounty program, we will reward individuals who provide tips that lead to the prosecution of fraud.

Finally, under this bill, every financial intermediary who provides advice to an investor will have a fiduciary duty toward them. This

standard will force broker-dealers and investment advisers to put first, their customers' interests—not their own pocketbooks.

American citizens need the confidence that their government will act quickly and forcefully to protect their hard-earned savings. The investor protection measures in the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act will provide families the security they need to prepare for the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the record my position on the following vote I missed on Thursday, December 10, 2009. If present, I would have voted yes during rollcall No. 947 on H. Res. 961, on Ordering the Previous Question providing consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

LIECHTENSTEIN'S COOPERATION ON TAX AND FINANCIAL CRIME ISSUES

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues the significant strides that the Principality of Liechtenstein has made through its comprehensive reforms in the regulation of its financial sector over the last nine years. These reforms are impressive. It is clear that Liechtenstein has demonstrated itself to be a trusted and effective partner in combating a wide range of financial crimes, including money laundering, terrorist financing, and tax fraud.

As the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) removed Liechtenstein from its grey list of non-cooperating states in tax matters on November 11, 2009, I would like to use this benchmark to recognize the Principality for its record of achievements in increasing not only the transparency of its financial center internationally, but its increased partnership with the United States. Recent reforms guarantee that Liechtenstein will provide the United States and others with an increasing range of cooperation on international tax matters. Its initial reforms concentrated on anti-money laundering efforts. More recently, the government of Liechtenstein signed an important Tax Information Exchange Agreement with the United States and has concluded negotiations of an Anti-Fraud Agreement with the European Union.

Liechtenstein's reform efforts began in 2000 when it committed itself to reform the regulation of its financial sector to better ensure that its banks and other service providers could not provide financial services to terrorists, drug lords, or other criminals. In 2001, Liech-

tenstein was taken off the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) list of non-cooperating countries. Since that time, Liechtenstein has improved its cooperation with the United States and the rest of the international community in the fight against all forms of crime.

Liechtenstein has worked closely with the U.S. government—including the Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN)—to combat terrorist financing networks. In addition, since 2002, Liechtenstein's Financial Intelligence Unit has been engaged in an ongoing multilateral effort to disclose the financial network of Abdul Qadeer Khan, the founder of Pakistan's nuclear weapons program. Liechtenstein also successfully worked to secure the return to the Iraqi government of a Falcon 50 airplane that had belonged to Saddam Hussein and has worked with the Volcker Commission in investigations of the UN's "Oil for Food" program.

Another step in Liechtenstein's international cooperation on financial crimes was the conclusion of a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) with the United States in 2002. Additionally, the Tax Information Exchange Agreement (TIEA) between Liechtenstein and the United States was signed in 2008. Once fully implemented in 2010, Liechtenstein and the United States will work closely together on the full range of tax issues, including tax fraud and tax evasion.

Liechtenstein's actions are to be commended. The continued productivity of the U.S.-Liechtenstein partnership is essential to fighting financial crimes and terrorist financing and I thank Liechtenstein for their commitment to these reforms.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4173, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which will rebuild our economy and crack down on Wall Street to prevent another economic collapse caused by institutions that are "too big to fail."

Over the past year, I, like many Rhode Islanders, have been angered by the greed exhibited by Wall Street and other companies that took advantage of their investors, preyed on our constituents, and rewarded executives with outrageous pay packages. With this bill, consumer protection will come first, and irresponsible companies will be held accountable for their actions.

I would like to thank the committees for their work on this bill, and especially want to thank Chairman FRANK for his leadership on this strong reform measure. I encourage all my colleagues to vote for this bill.

CONGRATULATING WINTON WOODS
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM
DIVISION II STATE TITLE

HON. STEVE DRIEHAUS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Madam Speaker, I'd like to congratulate Winton Woods High School on their football team's Division II State Title. Last Friday, December 4, 2009, the Winton Woods Warriors traveled north to Massillon, Ohio, where they brought home the school's first-ever state title with a 42–12 win over Maple Heights. Under the leadership of Coach Troy Everhart, the Warriors capped an outstanding season, boasting a 13–2 record. The Warriors' achievements this season are a source of pride for Winton Woods High School and all of greater Cincinnati. Congratulations, again, to Winton Woods High School on a great season and a great win.

WINTON WOODS HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Terri Holden, Principal.

Dr. Camille Nasbe, Superintendent.

TEAM ROSTER

2—Cornelius Roberts, 3—Corey Webber, 4—Juan Glover, 5—Tyler Smith, 6—Judge Marvin, 7—Thomas Owens, 8—Demond Hill, 9—Bryon McCorkle, 10—Dominique Brown, 11—Jalen Bradley, 12—Iel Freeman, 14—Julian Barnett, 16—Gary Underwood, 18—Antonio Poole, 20—Donshea Harris, 21—Markus Jackson, 22—Jeremiah Goins, 23—Zack Bomar, 24—Mike Crawford, 25—Chuck Wynn.

26—Antonio Sweeney, 28—Keeno Hollins, 29—Chris Stallworth, 30—Raheem Elston, 32—David Hampton, 33—Aaron Kemper, 34—Harrison Butler, 35—Pryde Geh, 36—Avery Cunningham, 38—Steffon Rodgers, 45—Johnathan Barwick, 46—Zauntre Dyer, 48—Tyler Gist, 50—Da'Sean Dykes, 51—James Richardson, 52—Perrin Cunningham, 53—Brad Thompson, 54—Josh Bailey.

55—Walter Richardson, 56—Harrison Reid, 58—Cameron Brown, 60—Hudson Pande, 61—Desmond Jarman, 62—Carlos Gray, 63—Aaron Patton, 65—Patrick Lett, 67—Tyler Nelson, 68—Jalen Crenshaw, 70—Donavan Myers, 71—D J Darby, 72—Marcus Murphy, 77—Brendan Gordon, 79—Mike Roach, 81—Dominic Bell, 82—Robbie Lewis, 83—Austin Mitchell, 85—Rodney Lofton, 86—Zach Campbell, 89—Stephen Tucker.

Troy Everhard, Head Coach.

Coaches: Jeff Sweeney, Tony Boyd, Isaac Fuller, Andre Parker, Mike Middleton, Derrick Jenkins, Justin Long, Art Wilson, Calvin Johnson, Donnie Gillespie, Larry Turney, Ben Spector.

Herb Woeste, Athletic Director.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday and was not present for Rollcall vote number 953.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO VELMA JUSTICE
CHILDERS

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Velma Justice Childers, a Republican leader in Kentucky who proudly planted her feet in the conservative movement.

Ms. Childers was an energetic civic leader always promoting the great attributes of Pikeville, Pike County and Eastern Kentucky. She was a hard working Republican who firmly believed in conservative principles of government. Velma eagerly offered her advice, counsel and friendship to politicians, neighbors and young rising leaders.

Her ability to communicate and rally support for conservative values, earned her reference as the "Grande Dame" of the Kentucky Republican Party. In addition to her passion for civic responsibility, Velma spent a lifetime sharing compassion and encouragement with members of the First Baptist Church of Pikeville for more than 50 years and as a member of the Board of Trustees for the University of the Cumberlands for 13 years, among various other committees across Southern and Eastern Kentucky.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in memory of Velma Justice Childers, a woman who tirelessly touted the values upon which our country was founded. Her enthusiasm will be missed.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Chair, the failure to regulate financial markets led to the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. Reforming our financial system is one major part of restoring our economy's health. Today this Congress and President Obama are taking effective steps to bring our economy back from the brink of disaster.

The Act is crucial in curbing the predatory practices of the past. It will protect consumers from predatory lending abuses and industry gimmicks.

This bill will guard a family's retirement funds, college savings, home, and business from unnecessary risk by executives, lenders, and speculators.

It will bring transparency and accountability into the financial system.

I commend Chairman FRANK for his tireless efforts to protect the American economy and taxpayers.

INTRODUCTION OF A CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION "REQUESTING
THAT THE PRESIDENT ISSUE A
PROCLAMATION ANNUALLY
CALLING UPON THE PEOPLE OF
THE UNITED STATES TO OB-
SERVE GLOBAL FAMILY DAY,
ONE DAY OF PEACE AND SHAR-
ING, AND FOR OTHER PUR-
POSES"

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce a resolution requesting that the President issue an annual proclamation that calls upon the people of the United States to observe Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing. Joining me in this effort is the gentleman from Ohio, DENNIS KUCINICH, and I would like to acknowledge him at this time.

Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing, is an annual observance, occurring on January 1st, that was conceived by children to further the cause of peace, sharing, and understanding among all members of the international community. As the year is coming to a close, I introduce this resolution for a few reasons.

First, I believe it is important that all people, regardless of race, culture, religion or economic status, celebrate life on earth together as one human family. A global holiday, like Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing, allows people around the world to realize this ideal by promoting global fellowship and cooperation.

A better appreciation for one another can only lead to the eradication of human suffering that results from violence, hunger, poverty, and other social ills. Practicing better global family values at the start of a new year may mean the realization of such concepts of goodwill and harmony throughout the year.

Second, I know that one day dedicated to global peace and cooperation is a day that every Member of Congress can support. Despite our differences, each of us has an interest in pursuing peaceful solutions to many of our contemporary problems. From worldwide hunger, to international human trafficking, to widespread religious intolerance, we are all impassioned by issues that call for a peaceful resolution to achieve a more desirable world.

Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing, can be one of the vehicles with which we unite to pursue these various missions for peace. A resolution calling for the recognition of Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing has always received bipartisan support as a bipartisan Congress adopted this resolution in 2000 and 2006. I am confident that there will be a similar reception this Congress.

Finally, while the Congress has adopted this resolution on other occasions, in the bipartisan spirit I have just described, we have yet to have a President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to recognize Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing.

We ask that the President and the First Family lead the nation in observing Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing

on January 1, 2010. Those participating in the global holiday can be invited to ring a bell, share a meal, and make a pledge in the name of peace. Through these acts we will become better neighbors within the global community.

In closing, I ask that my colleagues join me in support of this resolution recognizing Global Family Day, One Day of Peace and Sharing and requesting that the President lead the country in this holiday's recognition. By working together as one global family, we can better meet the challenges humanity will surely face in the years to come.

THE FINANCIAL CRISIS, TARP AND PAY-GO

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, in September of 2008, credit markets seized up. Many did not understand the full ramifications of the financial crisis at the time that has resulted in a deep recession with high unemployment. To respond to that crisis, Congress came together on a bipartisan basis and enacted the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, EESA, that included the Troubled Asset Relief Program, TARP.

During the debate on that bill, there was tremendous controversy over the \$700 billion in authority the administration was seeking to help stabilize financial markets and to avoid a much more severe economic crisis. Treasury was ultimately granted this extraordinary authority, but Congress included many key taxpayer protections. Among those protections, we wanted to make sure that TARP did not become a piggy bank for Congress to use to fund other programs.

The Senate has a budget procedure that is designed to keep funding designated as an emergency from being used as an offset in the future for budget enforcement purposes. The House does not have this procedure for mandatory spending bills, such as the TARP, or tax legislation. It was agreed to at that time that TARP funds could not be used as an offset for new programs or tax reductions for the purposes of budget enforcement. The EESA designated TARP as an emergency for the purposes of Senate enforcement. In the House, the budget is enforced through clause 10 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the pay-as-you-go rule, and the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In order to assure this, Section 204 of the TARP law includes the following language: "rescissions of any amounts provided in this Act shall not be counted for purposes of budget enforcement."

This language can only mean one of two things: (1) It means legislation considered by the House of Representatives must find other offsets for new spending or tax reductions and may not use unexpended TARP resources to comply with budget-related points of order; or (2) It means nothing.

The budget and the treatment of TARP and emergencies is a technical matter and it posed a challenge to draft this language under the extraordinary circumstances and pressures involved in the drafting of the EESA. However, the clear intent of the counsels involved in the

drafting of the specific legislative language was that TARP should not be used to fund new programs, the expansion of existing programs, or for tax reductions.

The Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009, H.R. 4173, includes language effectively cancelling \$10.2 billion in TARP funds in order to offset the effects of increased spending, and only by virtue of the TARP funds, is considered to abide by the pay-as-you-go point of order.

Using TARP to offset new programs is clearly inconsistent with the agreement on the TARP and the EESA when it was enacted on a bipartisan basis in 2008 and I believe it is inconsistent with a plain reading of the law.

This was an instance when we were working together and it is unfortunate that the law and the rules are now being interpreted to allow the TARP to become a piggy bank to increase spending, deficits, and debt.

HONORING AMANDA FERRANDINO FOR RECEIVING THE PRESTIGIOUS FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a young woman in my district, Amanda Ferrandino.

Ms. Ferrandino has been selected to receive a prestigious Fulbright award. The Fulbright Program is an international exchange program that is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Recipients of this award are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership in their chosen fields. Ms. Ferrandino plans to study Anthropology in Bangladesh.

I congratulate her on this accomplishment and applaud her contribution to global education and international relations.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 4173, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009.

The chaos that began last year on Wall Street has cost the country billions of dollars, rippled throughout the economy, and threatened to topple our entire financial system. Strong measures are required to address such a breakdown, and H.R. 4173 delivers a comprehensive set of financial regulations that in-

crease accountability and oversight for Wall Street and much of America's financial sector.

Earlier this year we saw the widespread damage that can occur when institutions like AIG or Lehman Brothers fail. This bill makes sure the taxpayer is not responsible for bailing out such firms, by establishing a process for dismantling failing financial institutions. By creating a new Systemic Dissolution Fund, large Wall Street firms will be in charge of paying the cost for risks they create instead of taxpayers. In addition, a Financial Stability Council will be created to identify and regulate financial institutions that are so large or interconnected that they pose a system risk to the economy as a whole. We must avoid the problems posed by firms that are "too big to fail" in the future.

For years, I have argued that the wild west of speculation in derivatives markets must end. Unregulated speculation may be responsible for wide swings and increases in the price of energy for consumers and feed for farms. This bill would strengthen derivatives market oversight, and for the first time ever, regulate the over-the-counter derivatives market for transactions between dealers and major swap participants. This provision will help prevent entities from driving up the cost of commodities and products and manufacturing risk in the larger economy.

H.R. 4173 also takes a major step forward in consumer protection by creating the Consumer Financial Protection Agency (CFPA). This agency would be devoted to stopping unfair practices and preventing abusive financial products from entering the marketplace. The CFPA would cover a wide range of financial institutions, including non-bank financial institutions, and would impose effective consumer protections for subprime mortgages, overdraft fees, credit card practices, and other financial products.

This bill includes other critical provisions for oversight and streamlining of the financial system like creating a Federal Insurance Office, reforming the credit ratings agencies that assess the value of the many financial products in our economy, and cleans up abusive practices in the mortgage lending industry that contributed to the collapse of the housing market. This regulation is long overdue and will benefit all Americans and businesses that depend on our financial institutions.

I support this reform of our financial industry, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for its passage.

A TRIBUTE TO POLICE LT. BILL L. CRANFILL FOR THREE DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF REDLANDS, CA

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute today to Redlands Police Lt. Bill L. Cranfill, who has provided protection and service to the city's residents for more than three decades and has helped make the force one of the most professional and well-respected in the region.

Bill Cranfill began working with the Redlands Police Department in 1976 as a volunteer reserve officer, and was hired as a permanent officer in May 1978. He graduated

from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Academy that year and holds both a bachelor's and master's degree from La Salle University.

Officer Cranfill won the first of the two Meritorious Service Awards he has received in 1980 for rescuing a woman from a burning building.

He was promoted to corporal in 1981 and was made a sergeant in 1985. After completing a wide range of leadership training, including the FBI Academy, he became a lieutenant in 1998.

Lieutenant Cranfill has helped to make the Redlands Police Department one of the most professional and progressive forces in the region, working alongside Police Chief Jim Bueerman and other top officers like Lt. Dan Shefcik, Lt. Rogelio Garcia and Commander Tom Fitzmaurice.

During his career, Lieutenant Cranfill has headed the Patrol Services Bureau and the Investigative Services Bureau. He has been the department's crisis negotiation coordinator, and was named the Redlands Public Safety Manager of the Year in 2008.

For many in the Redlands community, however, Lieutenant Cranfill is known as the Director of Public Safety for the University of Redlands. Serving under contract in that role for much of the past decade, Lieutenant Cranfill has helped the university maintain top standards for security, courtesy and evenhanded discipline with an open campus that is an asset to the community around it.

Beyond his high-profile role with the university, Lieutenant Cranfill is well-known for community involvement. He has helped run the Redlands Emergency Services Academy, which trains high school graduates in police and fire techniques, and is a strong supporter of the Redlands Bicycle Classic, an internationally-known bicycle race.

He is an active member of the Redlands Morning Kiwanis and has served as the Redlands Police Department's representative to the United Way. He has volunteered numerous times for Tipa-Cop fundraisers for local charities, ran in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run and Redlands Community Hospital Run for Life benefiting the Special Olympics and participated frequently in the Loma Linda University Medical Center Children's Hospital Halloween event.

Madam Speaker, after 30 years of dedication to law enforcement, Lt. Bill L. Cranfill is retiring this month. Please join me in thanking him for his decades of providing safety and service to the residents of Redlands, and wish him well in his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE STOPP ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, private ownership of property is vital to our freedom and our prosperity, and is one of the most fundamental principles embedded in our Constitution. The Founders realized the importance of property rights when they codified the Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, which requires that private property

shall not be taken "for public use, without just compensation." This clause created two conditions to the government taking private property: That the subsequent use of the property is for the public and that the government gives the property owners just compensation.

However, the Supreme Court's recent 5–4 decision in *Kelo v. City of New London* is a step in the opposite direction. This controversial ruling expands the ability of State and local governments to exercise eminent domain powers to seize property under the guise of "economic development" when the "public use" is as incidental as generating tax revenues or creating jobs, even in situations where the government takes property from one private individual and gives it to another private entity.

By defining "public use" so expansively, the Court essentially erased any protection for private property as understood by the Founders of our Nation. In the wake of this decision, State and local governments can use eminent domain powers to take the property of any individual for nearly any reason. Cities may now bulldoze private citizens' homes, farms, and small businesses to make way for shopping malls or other developments.

I completely agree with Justice O'Connor who, in her dissent in the *Kelo* case, wrote: "Today the Court abandons this long-held, basic limitation on government power. Under the banner of economic development, all private property is now vulnerable to being taken and transferred to another private owner, so long as it might be upgraded. To reason, as the Court does, that the incidental public benefits resulting from the subsequent ordinary use of private property render economic development takings "for public use" is to wash out any distinction between private and public use of property—and thereby effectively to delete the words "for public use" from the Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment."

For these reasons, I have introduced legislation with Representative STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN to ban all Federal economic development money for a period of two years for any State or local government that uses eminent domain for private economic development purposes.

The STOPP act also prohibits funding to a State or local government that fails to provide relocation assistance to a person displaced from property by any use of eminent domain for an economic development purpose. Relocation assistance must meet the level and be of the same manner as that required under the Uniform Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970. The STOPP act also provides landowners with a right to enforce the prohibition of funds under this act.

No one should have to live in fear of the government snatching up their home, farm, or business, and the Private Property Rights Protection Act will help to create the incentives to ensure that these abuses do not occur in the future.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 4173 and Chairman BARNEY FRANK's manager's amendment.

I want to thank the Chairman for his hard work and dedication to Comprehensive financial reform and strong protections for consumers. It is vital that we have a stand alone agency whose sole mission is to protect the rights of consumers.

For too long our financial regulatory framework put the protection and stability of financial institutions first and too often ignored the impact on American consumers and retail investors.

The Consumer Financial Protection Agency will help ensure that Wall Street will not be able to bring our economy to the brink of disaster ever again.

I also want to thank Chairman FRANK and the members of the Financial Services Committee for working with Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS and the Congressional Black Caucus to include several important provisions in the bill.

Specifically, thanks to their focused work, this bill will include \$3 billion in funds to provide relief for unemployed homeowners. It will extend credit for the recently unemployed that will help save homes from foreclosure.

This bill will stop the spread of foreclosure rescue scams and includes a vital \$1 billion increase in Neighborhood Stabilization Funds to protect our hardest hit communities.

Lower income communities and communities of color were targeted for these unaffordable and unethical products that are now driving millions of families into foreclosure.

Access to financial services and insurance products for historically underserved communities is strengthened.

The Office of Minority Inclusion, whose goal will be to make sure that all Americans have the equal protection of the work of the entire Federal financial regulatory framework is included in this bill.

Fairness of access and opportunity, transparency and strong enforcement of securities regulations are vital to bringing our economy back from recession and ensuring that the uncontrolled risk taking on Wall Street will never again have such a devastating impact on the entire economy.

Again, thank you Chairman FRANK, Congresswoman WATERS and the Financial Services Committee for such an important bill.

HONORING THE LIFE
ACHIEVEMENT OF JO JOHNSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Jo Johnson, the Executive Director of the Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging in Fresno, California as she prepares to retire after 18 years of dedicated service to seniors and the community of Fresno.

Jo Johnson is a Valley native, born in Fresno, California. She is a graduate of the Class of 1968 from Roosevelt High School and received her Bachelor's Degree from California State University, Fresno in 1972. Jo is married to Mr. John J. Johnson, Jr.

Jo has spent the majority of her career working as a selfless public servant. In 1973, she was hired by the Fresno County Probation Department as a Research Analyst. Then, in 1974, she moved to the State of Oregon to work as a Social Worker in the Children's Services Division. Jo returned to the Central Valley in 1975 and worked as a Probation Officer for the Tulare County Probation Department in Tulare, California until 1984. After spending time in the public sector, Jo worked as a paralegal in her husband's office in Big Bear Lake, California. In 1991, Jo was hired by the Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAAA).

Serving as Executive Director, Jo has helped direct the Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging to numerous accomplishments. When she was first hired in 1991, Jo created the Valley Coalition of Area Agencies on Aging which brought together the various county agencies to plan and direct legislation which would benefit the elderly. At the National level, Jo has participated in the 1994 Health Care University conference in Washington, D.C. sponsored by the Administration on Aging. Jo also received a Congressional appointment to the California delegation for the 1995 White House Conference on Aging. At the State level, she was appointed by the California Department on Aging to numerous committees helping to create nutrition policy and shape administrative structure.

Under Jo's guidance, the Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging became the first California area agency to own real estate. The Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging is the only statewide Agency to develop a campus of collocated services that facilitates immediate responses to consumer needs. Jo helped create a system that supports a team that investigates elder abuse and was the first to be recognized by the California Attorney General. The Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging has taken their original investment of \$1.5 million in community development block grants provided by the City of Fresno and helped create \$25 million worth of real property on an 8 acre campus. Furthermore, over 17 years ago, Jo was instrumental in the creation of the FMAAA's annual event "Seniors Serving Seniors". This event honoring seniors and those who help seniors is held in May of each year and is overwhelmingly successful because of Jo's love for seniors.

The leadership that Jo has shown for the senior community of Fresno has been steadfast during her time of service. Jo serves as

an outstanding example for those who truly want to make a positive difference. I am honored to not only call Jo a friend but also a champion for seniors. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise with me today to express our appreciation for Jo Johnson's dedicated service to seniors and her community.

HONORING DR. TERRI JULIAN, DIRECTOR FOR THE JACK H. WISBY JR. POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER TREATMENT CENTER

HON. ERIC J.J. MASSA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. MASSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Terri Julian, Director for the Jack H. Wisby Jr. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Clinic and newly instituted Women's Residential Program, at the Batavia Campus of the Veterans Administration Western New York Health System VAWNYHS. Dr. Julian is the past recipient of the Federal Woman of the Year Award, 2006, and it is my privilege to recognize her significant contributions to the VA system, made on behalf of our veterans.

Dr. Julian was the major force behind the development of the Women's Residential Program at the Batavia campus of VAWNYHS. This is one of two programs nationwide in the Veterans Health Administration, VHA, that provides female veterans treatment for military sexual and/or combat trauma. The all-female staff includes a psychologist, social worker and social service assistants who collectively work to improve the care provided to afflicted female veterans. Dr. Julian's dedicated efforts to the program enable its practitioners to provide high-quality care to our nation's female veterans, who, it is recognized by the VHA, have a recovery process that is unique from their male counterparts.

In addition to the Women's Residential Program, Dr. Julian has improved the organizational capacity of the Jack H. Wisby Jr. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Clinic used by the entire Batavia campus of the VAWNYHS so it now provides the highest quality care for stress-related injuries to all veterans, regardless of gender.

One need only look to Dr. Julian's numerous accolades to understand her commitment and passion for comprehensive care to veterans. As a leader in her field, she is often requested by her peers to lead workshop and training programs, author professional articles and give expert advice on PTSD program development and implementation.

Our servicemen and women sacrifice immensely for our great nation and I am honored that they are recipients of the quality care provided by Dr. Julian and those like her in the VHA. On behalf of the United States Congress, it is my privilege to publically and permanently laud Dr. Terri Julian's dedicated efforts to our veterans.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. STARK. Madam Chair, I rise to support the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act because it is time that the Wild West of financial "innovation" had a sheriff.

Just over a year ago, I stood on this floor and twice voted against President Bush's taxpayer-funded bailout of Wall Street. I would cast the same votes again. I hope that this legislation will mean that taxpayers will never again be on the hook for the reckless behavior of financiers.

This legislation will help to end "too big to fail" by providing dissolution authority to regulators. Instead of being bailed out with tax dollars, a company like AIG would be dismantled in an orderly and fair process. Shareholders would be wiped out and executives dismissed. This would be paid for, not with tax dollars, but by an assessment on financial firms. The ideal solution would be the reinstatement of the Glass-Steagall Act, preventing the merger of commercial and investment banks. However, I am glad that this bill at least enables swift intervention and provides a financing mechanism so that bailouts will be a thing of the past.

In addition to being forced to pay for the excesses of Wall Street, consumers have been preyed upon by financial services companies. These companies have profited from unfair and abusive lending practices, including steering families into subprime mortgages. Regulation has been lax or non-existent and there is no single entity charged with looking out for consumers. With the formation of a Consumer Financial Protection Agency an agency will, for the first time, be charged with ensuring that families are not exposed to toxic financial offerings.

Finally, I wholeheartedly support the so-called "cram down" amendment, to allow courts to reset the principal for home mortgages in bankruptcy proceedings. This judicial discretion is allowed for every other type of debt—a reminder of the double standard that has too frequently separated average families from Wall Street.

I urge all of my colleagues to put consumer interests over those of the Big Banks. Let's finally start policing Wall Street. Vote "yes."

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
LT. FRANK HENTSCHELL

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Lt. Frank Hentschell of Munising,

Michigan on his retirement from the Michigan State Police after 36 years of dedicated law enforcement service. Lt. Hentschell's enthusiasm for his work and commitment to the communities he has served is testament to the caliber of officers in the Michigan State Police.

A native of the Upper Peninsula, Lt. Hentschell started his career in uniform as a Boy Scout. He made Eagle Scout, the highest rank in Boy Scouts, by age 13 and continues to be active in Boy Scouts to this day.

As a graduate of Northern Michigan University's Police Academy, Lt. Hentschell was also certified as an EMT and firefighter. His police career began in 1973 with the Manistique Public Safety Department, where he served for five years before leaving the post to help re-establish the Chocolay Police Department near Marquette, Michigan. He served as chief of the Chocolay Police Department for one year before leaving to join the Michigan State Police in 1984.

Following graduation from the 98th State Police Training Academy in Lansing, Michigan, Lt. Hentschell was assigned to the State Police post in Flat Rock down in Southeast Michigan. There he became a member of the Emergency Support Team and served from 1987 to 1995. He also served as a trooper at posts in Erie and Munising and as sergeant at the post in Gaylord, Michigan. He earned the title of Lieutenant in 1995 when he returned to the Upper Peninsula to serve at the Iron River Michigan State Police Post. In 2001, Lt. Hentschell came back to Munising where he has served since.

Over the years, Lt. Hentschell's hard work and dedication has been recognized through a number of written commendations. He received the 1989 Officer of the Year award from Monroe County while serving at the Flat Rock post, and Kiwanian of the Year while serving in Iron River.

Lt. Hentschell's wife Donna has been by his side throughout his career. They will remain in the Munising area following his retirement and look forward to travelling together and spending time with their daughter Sandra and granddaughter, Katie.

Madam Speaker, Lt. Frank Hentschell has spent 36 years of his life enforcing the law and protecting the citizens of Michigan. His lifelong devotion to law enforcement should be commended. Throughout his career he has touched the lives of countless individuals he has worked with and served. I ask Madam Speaker, that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in recognizing Lt. Hentschell for his courage, his dedication, and his years of service on his retirement from the Michigan State Police.

THE PUBLIC LANDS REHABILITATION AND JOB CREATION ACT

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Public Lands Rehabilitation and Job Creation Act.

The landscape of America is dotted with national treasures, including our national parks, monuments, and forests. From Yosemite Na-

tional Park in my home state of California to Acadia National Park in Maine, national parks are of recognized for the natural splendor that surrounds us and conserving our precious natural resources for future generations must be a priority.

Since 1916, the National Park Service has admirably preserved and protected our natural treasures. In recent years, however, a log jam of maintenance and safety issues has developed. Structures are unsound, trails overgrown, roads impassable, and cabins unusable. A lack of resources, both money and manpower, has contributed to this situation. If we invest in repairing, rebuilding, and rehabilitating these resources now, we will not only have a safer infrastructure and a brighter future, we will employ tens of thousands of people across the nation.

Since January 2008, the number of unemployed Americans has grown each month. In some areas, the unemployment rate has reached more than twenty percent. We have taken steps to stimulate the economy and catch people in the social safety net, but we have not done enough. While a stronger safety net helps families survive, in the end, Americans don't want unemployment checks, they want to work.

We have people without work and work without people. The solution could not be clearer. We can put people back to work now and restore our national treasures by passing this bill to increase funding for the National Park Service and National Forest Service.

Despite almost 8,000 permanent and seasonal employees, nearly every park manager asserts that their current staffing level is woefully insufficient to take on identified maintenance issues. Within four to six months of receiving additional funds, the Park Service can prepare needed plans and complete essential hiring. These new employees will resurface roads; rehabilitate trails; repair visitor centers, museums, and campsites; and restore wild areas to their previous pristine nature. The new opportunities will range from lower-skilled, entry-level work to highly paid, highly skilled, professional and master craftsman jobs.

Similarly, the Forest Service can create at least fourteen and a half direct hire jobs in well-paying fields like engineering, design, and construction for every million dollars we invest in road repair and decommissioning.

Opportunities to improve roads, buildings, and other infrastructure exist in urban and rural areas across the nation, from the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace in New York City, to Fort Sumter in South Carolina; and from Cabrillo National Monument in San Diego to the Hiawatha National Forest in Michigan.

Without additional investment, our infrastructure problems will continue to grow and hinder use and enjoyment of our nation's natural resources. Theodore Roosevelt once said that we should ensure the mountains and trees and canyons and streams are preserved for our children and our children's children, "with their majestic beauty all unmarred." If we continue to neglect our greatest national treasures, our problems will fester and future generations will have less to enjoy.

We can cure this oversight through increased investments that will put more than 50,000 Americans back to work, performing needed, meaningful tasks that our children and grandchildren will enjoy for years to come.

Congress rarely has a chance to act on opportunities this well paired. We should put

Americans back to work and preserve our public lands for future generations. We cannot let this opportunity slip by. We need these jobs, and we need to pass the Public Lands Rehabilitation and Job Creation Act.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Chair, like many pieces of major, ground-breaking legislation, today's product is a hybrid, combining some good with some questionable provisions. On balance, I think the product is positive and begins a step towards reorienting the protections in our financial system to deal with families, consumers, and the integrity of our institutions. The potential meltdown we faced last fall, the bursting of an unsustainable housing bubble, and radically flawed and abusive financial practices are among the many sources to blame. So, unfortunately, were a too lax financial regulatory system and Federal Reserve that in too many cases enabled reckless behavior.

There's plenty of blame for past administrations and Congresses that were too interested in the collection of special interests to appropriately protect the public interest. To be sure, some of this blame rests at the footsteps of American consumers, a few of whom actually abused the system themselves, too many of whom were simply uninformed or did not exercise their own due diligence. On balance, it was the system that failed and we are all paying the price and will for years to come.

This legislation, while the result of a number of compromises, is an important step towards rebalancing priorities and strengthening the protective institutions. I voted in favor of this as a symbol of support for a longer-term process of reform. This is the launch of an extensive process, and it represents a landmark.

Passing the most significant reform bill in decades is an accomplishment that I hope will lead to productive action from the Senate, legislation the President can sign, and, most important, a commitment to continue the process of protection and reform to strike the right balance—legislation and a regulatory process that protects citizens with a touch as light as possible while still being able to do the job. Hopefully, this will inspire everybody—in Congress, in the administration, in the regulatory agencies, in the industry, and in American homes—to play the roles that only they can assume so that the horrific abuses of the financial system become a distant memory.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. _____,
EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR
AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
FOLLOWING THE BOMBING
OF THE NEVSKY EXPRESS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution expressing sympathy for and solidarity with the people of the Russian Federation following the bombing of the Nevsky Express. This is a simple measure, but an important one. After our Nation suffered the terrorist attacks of 2001, Russia was among the first to reach out and offer unqualified condolences and support. Madam Speaker, too often when the Russians hear from this body they hear moralistic statements of condemnation and outrage. In the spirit of fairness and mutual respect, now is the time for Russia to hear our genuine sympathy and support. We all face a common enemy in the terrorists and extremists who would murder innocents to advance an ideology. Let us stand together with our Russian neighbors in their moment of sorrow and work together for a safer world. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

THE DECEMBER 4TH FIRE IN THE
CITY OF PERM, RUSSIA

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my deep sorrow over the tragic fire that took the lives of one hundred forty-two people at a nightclub in the city of Perm, Russia, on December 4th.

News of this fire hit close to home for me, and for many of my constituents, as it closely mirrors the devastating 2003 Station Nightclub fire in West Warwick, Rhode Island, which killed 100 people and injured over 200 more. According to early reports, the Perm fire started when performance pyrotechnics ignited the ceiling of the nightclub, sending patrons stampeding for one narrow exit. One hundred forty two people were killed and scores more were injured as patrons tried to escape the flames.

In the United States, fires caused over \$15.5 billion in damages last year, but their most horrific toll were the over 3,400 lives, including 118 firefighters, who were lost as a result. Studies have shown that fire sprinklers can dramatically reduce property damage and, more importantly, save lives. In fact, the National Fire Protection Association has no record of a fire killing more than two people in a public assembly, or an educational, institutional or residential building, with a complete and fully operational automatic fire sprinkler system.

This is why earlier this year I reintroduced the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act of 2009 that provides tax incentives for property owners to retrofit buildings with automatic fire sprinkler systems. I hope that through this and other measures, we can raise awareness and im-

prove fire safety—not only in this country, but around the world—and ensure that tragedies like those in Russia and Rhode Island are never repeated.

I want to once again extend my sympathy, and that of the people of Rhode Island, for the families of the victims of the Perm fire and to the Russian people. We know all too well the pain and loss you are feeling, and we send our thoughts and prayers to your community in this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING THE ENGAGEMENT
OF MARC WIRTZ AND AMANDA
HASLAM

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce that Marc Wirtz, an intern in my office, proposed to his girlfriend of 4 years, Amanda Haslam, at the top of our Nation's Capitol at sunset. I am pleased to congratulate the new couple and wish them the very best in their future together.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Chair, I would like to thank Chairman FRANK and his staff for working with me on a clarification included in the Manager's Amendment. The provision addresses how the Financial Services Oversight Council and the Federal Reserve should interact and supervise financial holding companies that do not own banks, but which are subject to stricter standards because the Council has found them to be systemically risky.

The provision requires the Federal Reserve to be flexible when applying the standards to non-bank holding companies, rather than using a bank-centric approach that may not be appropriate for their structure. In addition, the Federal Reserve will have to consult with the Federal Insurance Office when determining how best to supervise insurance companies that are subject to stricter standards. For companies that are also foreign-based, the Federal Reserve and the Oversight Council must take into consideration if the company has comparable home-country supervision and decide how best to coordinate with that supervision. These minor clarifications help to ensure that institutions which are not banks will not be forced to comply with regulations that do not fit their business structure.

The beauty of the U.S. financial system is diversity, both in products and in structure. It is important to preserve that diversity for the purpose of domestic and international competition. I thank Chairman FRANK for his willingness to incorporate these changes into the manager's amendment.

HONORING CHEYENNE SPETZLER
OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cheyenne Spetzler, Chief Operations Officer of Open Door Community Health Centers, of Humboldt County, California. Ms. Spetzler has dedicated 30 years to providing quality health care for the people of Humboldt and Del Norte Counties.

Beginning as a volunteer, Cheyenne has worked at all levels of Open Door Community Health Centers, ultimately becoming responsible for daily operations of the clinic system. Under her leadership, the original part-time clinic staffed by volunteers developed into a comprehensive network of nine licensed facilities and mobile medical programs throughout the two counties. Ms. Spetzler led the team responsible for the addition of the Del Norte Community Health Center in 1990, the Eureka Community Health Center in 1991 and the Burre Dental Center in Eureka in 2003.

Today, the Open Door Community Health Centers provide medical, dental and mental health care to more than 40,000 individuals annually and employ a staff of more than 350. The Open Door network provides health care to approximately one-third of the total population from this large rural area the size of Connecticut, and is the largest safety-net provider in Northwestern California.

Ms. Spetzler has served the people of California as a long time board member of the statewide Reproductive Health Association and as a member of numerous state and local associations and committees. She also continues to promote healthy living through her passion for sports, including the development of women's soccer at Humboldt State University, first as a club team and later as a fully intercollegiate women's soccer team.

Cheyenne Spetzler is also a respected Mayan scholar who has taught Mayan Hieroglyphic Decipherment at the University of Texas at Austin and Humboldt State University in Arcata. She served as primary researcher for the NOVA television special "Cracking the Maya Code" released in 2008.

Ms. Spetzler is a respected member of the community, highly regarded for her successful efforts to develop health care facilities, which meet community health care needs through their focus on health education, access to care and prevention.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Cheyenne Spetzler for her unwavering leadership and dedication to improving the health of California's North Coast communities.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Chair, on June 30, 2009, the Obama Administration released details of its proposal to establish a Consumer Financial Protection Agency as an independent agency in the executive branch to regulate the provision of financial products and services to consumers. Five months later, Congressman FRANK, Chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, has turned this proposal into a 1,300-page bill that further extends the federal government's hands into more aspects of our economy.

I oppose this legislation for several reasons. One, it will permanently extend the Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP)—something that I've been actively trying to end. I recently introduced legislation that will effectively end TARP by eliminating the Treasury Secretary's authority to utilize this program. This bill also creates another czar—a Credit Czar. This unelected official is granted the authority to restrict access to credit and impose taxes on consumers and small businesses.

These reforms will continue to perpetuate the bailout mentality that has plagued our Nation and eliminate access to credit for many small businesses and families at a time when they need it most.

One of the most troubling aspects of this bill is the vague, subjective standards that non-financial companies must meet. One such example of the bill's vagueness is found in the definition of businesses that engage in "financial activities" and those that pose a "systematic risk" to the stability of the financial market.

A business that engages in "financial activities," is now subject to increased regulations and fees. Exactly who comes under this definition, however, is not that clear. Maybe this will fall under the new "Credit Czar's" job description. Nonetheless, this bill will drastically affect businesses, specifically non-financial businesses that had no part in the irresponsible decisions that lead to the market collapse in 2008.

Vague definitions expose non-financial businesses that utilize the commodity and derivatives markets to manage risk and plan for the future. These markets, which date from the 1980s, involve hedgers. Hedgers, producers or commercial users of commodities, trade in futures to offset price risk. They use the markets to lock in today's price for transactions that will occur in the future, shielding their businesses from unfavorable price changes.

This bill restricts the use of these practical business tools. These practical tools encourage job creation and provide customized hedges to help businesses like farmers, grocery stores and energy companies to manage price volatility, so that retail prices can remain

low and stable. Yet H.R. 4173 authorizes government regulators to arbitrarily impose capital and margin requirements for "over the counter" (OTC) derivatives, and impose new capital requirements for cleared swaps, which would lead to increased retail prices and make it less likely that corporations could engage in responsible risk management.

Companies that utilize these markets to shield themselves from future risk and uncertainty in the energy markets should not be penalized for planning ahead. Unless the definition of "financial activities" and others like it are changed, companies who have not contributed to the market collapse will be required to shell out large sums of money as security for increased regulations. This will no doubt drive up operational costs and increase the price of energy.

In the midst of continuing economic turmoil, this bill increases the size of government, expands its reach in the marketplace, jeopardizes the safety and soundness of many of America's financial companies and non-financial companies, and significantly increases the cost of credit for all consumers at a time when consumers can least afford it.

For the above reasons, I am opposed to this bill. I encourage my colleagues to vote no.

CLIMATEGATE: THE DESTROYED DOCUMENTS

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I submit the executive summary document concerning the suppressed comments on the EPA endangerment finding for inclusion in the RECORD. The entire document, 'Comments on Draft Technical Support Document for Endangerment Analysis for Greenhouse Gas Emissions under the Clean Air Act,' will be available on the Energy and Commerce Committee website.

COMMENTS ON DRAFT TECHNICAL SUPPORT DOCUMENT FOR ENDANGERMENT ANALYSIS FOR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS UNDER THE CLEAN AIR ACT

(By Alan Carlin, NCEE/OPEI)

Based on TSD Draft of March 9, 2009

March 16, 2009

We have become increasingly concerned that EPA has itself paid too little attention to the science of global warming. EPA and others have tended to accept the findings reached by outside groups, particularly the IPCC and the CCSP, as being correct without a careful and critical examination of their conclusions and documentation. If they should be found to be incorrect at a later date, however, and EPA is found not to have made a really careful independent review of them before reaching its decisions on endangerment, it appears likely that it is EPA rather than these other groups that may be blamed for any errors. Restricting the source of inputs into the process to these two sources may make EPA's current task easier but it may come with enormous costs later if they should result in policies that may not be scientifically supportable.

We do not maintain that we or anyone else have all the answers needed to take action now. Some of the conclusions reached in these comments may well be shown to be in-

correct by future research. Our conclusions do represent the best science in the sense of most closely corresponding to available observations that we currently know of, however, and are sufficiently at variance with those of the IPCC, CCSP, and the Draft TSD that we believe they support our increasing concern that EPA has not critically reviewed the findings by these other groups.

As discussed in these comments, we believe our concerns and reservations are sufficiently important to warrant a serious review of the science by EPA before any attempt is made to reach conclusions on the subject of endangerment from GHGs. We believe that this review should start immediately and be a continuing effort as long as there is a serious possibility that EPA may be called upon to implement regulations designed to reduce global warming. The science has and undoubtedly will continue to change and EPA must have the capability to keep abreast of these changes if it is to successfully discharge its responsibilities. The Draft TSD suggests to us that we do not yet have that capability or that we have not used what we have.

We would be happy to work with and assist anyone who might want to undertake such a serious review of the science and hope that these comments will at least illustrate the scope of what we believe is needed.

We hope that the reader will excuse the many unintentional errors that are undoubtedly in these comments. Our only excuse is that we had less than four days to draft these very lengthy and complex comments. It has not been possible to fully adhere to our usual very high standards of accuracy as a result. If there should be questions, we will be happy to try to correct any errors that anyone may find, however.

It is of great importance that the Agency recognize the difference between an effort that has consumed tens of billions of dollars by the IPCC, the CCSP, and some additional European, particularly British, funding over a period of at least 15 years with what two EPA staff members have been able to pull together in less than a week. Obviously the number of peer reviewed papers that exist and the polish of the summary reports cannot be compared. What is actually noteworthy about this effort is not the relative apparent scientific shine of the two sides but rather the relative ease with which major holes have been found in the GHG/CO₂/AGW argument. In many cases the most important arguments are based not on multi-million dollar research efforts but by simple observation of available data which has surprisingly received so little scrutiny. The best example of this is the MSU satellite data on global temperatures. Simple scrutiny of this data yields what to us are stunning observations. Yet this has received surprisingly little study or at least publicity. In the end it must be emphasized that the issue is not which side has spent the most money or published the most peer-reviewed papers, or been supported by more scientific organizations. The issue is rather whether the GHG/CO₂/AGW hypothesis meets the ultimate scientific test—conformance with real world data. What these comments show is that it is this ultimate test that the hypothesis fails; this is why EPA needs to carefully reexamine the science behind global warming before proposing an endangerment finding. This will take more than four days but is the most important thing we can do right now and in the coming weeks and months and possibly even years.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

These comments are based on the draft Technical Support Document for Endangerment Analysis for Greenhouse Gas

Emissions under the Clean Air Act (hereafter draft TSD) issued by the Climate Change Division of the Office of Atmospheric Programs on March 9, 2009. Unfortunately, because we were only given a few days to review this lengthy document these comments are of necessity much less comprehensive and polished than they would have been if more time had been allowed. We are prepared, however, to provide added information, more detailed comments on specific points raised, and any assistance in making changes if requested by OAR.

The principal comments are as follows:

As of the best information we currently have, the GHG/CO₂ hypothesis as to the cause of global warming, which this Draft TSD supports, is currently an invalid hypothesis from a scientific viewpoint because it fails a number of critical comparisons with available observable data. Any one of these failings should be enough to invalidate the hypothesis; the breadth of these failings leaves no other possible conclusion based on current data. As Feynman (1975) has said failure to conform to real world data makes it necessary from a scientific viewpoint to revise the hypothesis or abandon it (see Section 2.1 for the exact quote). Unfortunately this has not happened in the global warming debate, but needs to if an accurate finding concerning endangerment is to be made. The failings are listed below in decreasing order of importance in our view:

1. Lack of observed upper tropospheric heating in the tropics (see Section 2.9 for a detailed discussion).

2. Lack of observed constant humidity levels, a very important assumption of all the IPCC models, as CO₂ levels have risen (see Section 1.7).

3. The most reliable sets of global temperature data we have, using satellite microwave sounding units, show no appreciable temperature increases during the critical period 1978-1997, just when the surface station data show a pronounced rise (see Section 2.4). Satellite data after 1998 is also inconsistent with the GHG/CO₂/AGW hypothesis.

4. The models used by the IPCC do not take into account or show the most important ocean oscillations which clearly do affect global temperatures, namely, the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation, and the ENSO (Section 2.4). Leaving out any major potential causes for global warming from the analysis results in the likely misattribution of the effects of these oscillations to the GHGs/CO₂ and hence is likely to overstate their importance as a cause for climate change.

5. The models and the IPCC ignored the possibility of indirect solar variability (Section 2.5), which if important would again be likely to have the effect of overstating the importance of GHGs/CO₂.

6. The models and the IPCC ignored the possibility that there may be other significant natural effects on global temperatures that we do not yet understand (Section 2.4). This possibility invalidates their statements that one must assume anthropogenic sources in order to duplicate the temperature record. The 1998 spike in global temperatures is very difficult to explain in any other way (see Section 2.4).

7. Surface global temperature data may have been hopelessly corrupted by the urban heat island effect and other problems which may explain some portion of the warming that would otherwise be attributed to GHGs/CO₂. In fact, the Draft TSD refers almost exclusively in Section 5 to surface rather than satellite data.

The current Draft TSD is based largely on the IPCC AR4 report, which is at best three years out of date in a rapidly changing field. There have been important developments in

areas that deserve careful attention in this draft. The list includes the following six which are discussed in Section 1:

Global temperatures have declined—extending the current downturn to 11 years with a particularly rapid decline in 1907-8; in addition, the PDO went negative in September, 2007 and the AMO in January, 2009, respectively. At the same time atmospheric CO₂ levels have continued to increase and CO₂ emissions have accelerated.

The consensus on past, present and future Atlantic hurricane behavior has changed. Initially, it tilted towards the idea that anthropogenic global warming is leading to (and will lead to) more frequent and intense storms. Now the consensus is much more neutral, arguing that future Atlantic tropical cyclones will be little different than those of the past.

The idea that warming temperatures will cause Greenland to rapidly shed its ice has been greatly diminished by new results indicating little evidence for the operation of such processes.

One of the worst economic recessions since World War II has greatly decreased GHG emissions compared to the assumptions made by the IPCC. To the extent that ambient GHG levels are relevant for future global temperatures, these emissions reductions should greatly influence the adverse effects of these emissions on public health and welfare. The current draft TSP does not reflect the changes that have already occurred nor those that are likely to occur in the future as a result of the recession. In fact, the topic is not even discussed to our knowledge.

A new 2009 paper finds that the crucial assumption in the GCM models used by the IPCC concerning strongly positive feedback from water vapor is not supported by empirical evidence and that the feedback is actually negative.

A new 2009 paper by Scafetta and Wilson suggests that the IPCC used faulty solar data in dismissing the direct effect of solar variability on global temperatures. Other research by Scafetta and others suggests that solar variability could account for up to 68% of the increase in Earth's global temperatures.

These six developments alone should greatly influence any assessment of "vulnerability, risk, and impacts" of climate change within the U.S., but are not discussed in the Draft TSD to our knowledge. But these are just a few of the new developments since 2006. Therefore, the extensive portions of the EPA's Endangerment TSD which are based upon science from the IPCC AR4 report are no longer appropriate and need to be revised before a TSD is issued for comments.

Not only is some of the science of the TSD out-of-date but there needs to be an explicit, in-depth analysis of the likely causes of global warming in our view. Despite the complexity of the climate system the following conclusions in this regard appear to be well supported by the available data (see Section 2 below):

- A. By far the best single explanation for global temperature fluctuations appears to be variations in the PDO/AMO/ENSO. ENSO appears to operate in a 3-5 year cycle. PDO/AMO appear to operate in about a 60-year cycle. This is not really explained in the draft TSD but needs to be, or, at the very least, there needs to be an explanation as to why OAR believes that these evident cycles do not exist or why they are so unimportant as not to receive in-depth analysis.

- B. There appears to be a strong association between solar sunspots/irradiance and global temperature fluctuations. It is unclear exactly how this operates, but it may be through indirect solar variability on cloud formation. This topic is not really explored

in the Draft TSD but needs to be since otherwise the effects of solar variations may be misattributed to the effects of changes in GHG levels.

- C. Changes in GHG concentrations appear to have so little effect that it is difficult to find any effect in the satellite temperature record, which started in 1978.

- D. The surface measurements (such as HADCRUT) are more ambiguous than the satellite measurements in that the increasing temperatures shown since the mid-1970s could either be due to the rapid growth of urbanization and the heat island effect or by the increase in GHG levels. However, since no such increase is shown in the satellite record it appears more likely that urbanization and the UHI effect and/or other measurement problems are the most likely cause. If so, the increases may have little to do with GHGs and everything to do with the rapid urbanization during the period. Given the discrepancy between surface temperature records in the 1940-75 and 1998-2008 and the increases in GHG levels during these periods it appears even more unlikely that GHGs have as much of an effect on measured surface temperatures as claimed. These points need to be very carefully and fully discussed in the draft TSD if it is to be scientifically credible.

- E. Hence it is not reasonable to conclude that there is any endangerment from changes in GHG levels based on the satellite record, since almost all the fluctuations appear to be due to natural causes and not human-caused pollution as defined by the Clean Air Act. The surface record is more equivocal but needs to be carefully discussed, which would require substantial revision of the Draft TSD.

- F. There is a significant possibility that there are some other natural causes of global temperature fluctuations that we do not yet really understand and which may account for the very noticeable 1998 temperature peak which appears on both the satellite and surface temperature records. This possibility needs to be fully explained and 2009 DRAFT discussed in the Draft TSD. Until and unless these and many other inconsistencies referenced in these comments are adequately explained it would appear premature to attribute all or even most of what warming has occurred to changes in GHG/CO₂ atmospheric levels.

These inconsistencies between the TSD analysis and scientific observations are so important and sufficiently abstruse that in our view EPA needs to make an independent analysis of the science of global warming rather than adopting the conclusions of the IPCC and CCSP without much more careful and independent EPA staff review than is evidenced by the Draft TSP. Adopting the scientific conclusions of an outside group such as the IPCC or CCSP without thorough review by EPA is not in the EPA tradition anyway, and there seems to be little reason to change the tradition in this case. If their conclusions should be incorrect and EPA acts on them, it is EPA that will be blamed for inadequate research and understanding and reaching a possibly inaccurate determination of endangerment. Given the downward trend in temperatures since 1998 (which some think will continue until about 2030 given the 60 year cycle described in Section 2) there is no particular reason to rush into decisions based on a scientific hypothesis that does not appear to explain much of the available data.

Finally, there is an obvious logical problem posed by steadily increasing U.S. health and welfare measures and the alleged endangerment of health and welfare discussed in this draft TSD during a period of rapid rise in at least CO₂ ambient levels.

This discontinuity either needs to be carefully explained in the draft TSD or the conclusions changed.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Chair, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 4173. Although I am supportive of the Consumer Financial Protection Agency as well as other provisions in the bill, ultimately I do not think H.R. 4173 adequately addresses the causes of the financial crisis, and I do not believe the reforms are sufficient to prevent another financial crisis from occurring.

In testimony before the Committee on Financial Services earlier in the year, Dr. Robert Johnson of the Roosevelt Institute stressed that reform of the derivatives markets is absolutely central to fixing the financial system. In fact, he went so far as to say that without strong and comprehensive derivatives reform, any effort to address the problem of systemic risk would be rendered impotent.

H.R. 4173 makes some progress toward regulating derivatives by establishing regulations for clearing and regulating over-the-counter derivatives; however the bill—especially in light of the House's adoption of the Murphy amendment—contains a number of loopholes that sophisticated financial industry insiders will exploit with ease. For example, the Murphy amendment's expansion of the exemption of derivatives users, jeopardizes the integrity of the whole reform. As Dr. Johnson said in his testimony, the challenge is to "[preserve] as much scope for deriving value from derivative instruments for end users without making the definition of end user so broad that it allows large scale financial institutions to effectively continue their unregulated OTC practices and at the same time assures that end users do not themselves, through loopholes, contribute to a weakening of the integrity of the financial system." H.R. 4173 does not accomplish this.

Credit rating agencies were also at the heart of the financial crisis. It was their bogus ratings on opaque securitizations and other financial products that fueled the asset bubble, and it was the fundamental conflict of interest in their "issuer pays" business model that strengthened their position in the industry.

Unfortunately H.R. 4173, rather than address the fundamental conflict of interest in the "issuer pays" model, instead sidesteps the issue and gives the Securities and Exchange Commission more authority to mitigate conflicts of interest. The years leading up to the financial crisis, however, taught us some very important lessons regarding the enforcement authority of the SEC: when officials at the Agency operate with a philosophical disagree-

ment with its mission, it does not matter what tools they have; they simply will not use them. In the interest of long-term, systemic reform, H.R. 4173 should have directly addressed this problem.

As everyone knows, another major cause of the crisis was gargantuan, systemically-interrelated institutions headed by shortsighted executives that scarcely had a notion of their complexity. H.R. 4173 attempts to address "too big to fail" by creating a resolution authority for unwinding and dissolving large institutions that have failed. Simply put, too big to fail is too big to exist. Real financial reform would include prohibiting financial institutions from metastasizing to the point where they threaten the whole system. Real reform would also include limits on interconnectedness and risk. In the words of Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz, "Such an approach won't prevent another crisis, but it would make one less likely—and less costly if it did occur."

Yet another cause of the financial crisis was the contagion that spread from the \$8 trillion housing bubble that burst. The housing bubble was fueled by predatory and subprime mortgages that were securitized on a massive scale. The manager's amendment included language from H.R. 1728, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act, and I applaud Chairman FRANK for acknowledging the importance of including this legislation. The manager's amendment also included \$1 billion for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program to help communities address the problem of abandoned and foreclosed properties. My Domestic Policy Subcommittee did important work on how to target this federal assistance most effectively, I was glad to see its inclusion, and I supported the manager's amendment.

Curiously absent from H.R. 4173, however, is real reform of the process of securitization or any acknowledgement whatsoever that the federal government, through interventions at the Federal Reserve and the Treasury, is the securitization market right now. H.R. 4173 would only require that securitizers retain 5 percent of their assets, called "skin in the game." However, regulators would have the power to raise that amount, but only to 10 percent, and could also eliminate it altogether. This would hardly act as a deterrent to what has become an abused practice. Securitization, done wisely and thoughtfully, is vital to our economy; however by failing to address this issue H.R. 4173 simply allows the abuse of securitization to continue.

There is no reform of the government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs) that subjugated the "public good" aspect of their missions to the demands of their investors for higher profits.

Finally, H.R. 4173 does not fix the problem caused by the conflict of interest in the Federal Reserve's dual mandate. I applaud the efforts of my colleagues RON PAUL and ALAN GRAYSON to include in the bill the authority of the Government Accountability Office to conduct audits of the Federal Reserve, but the financial crisis—and the government's extraordinary response—taught us monetary policy and regulatory policy must be exclusive. Relying on one entity to conduct both activities so vital to a healthy financial system will inevitably give rise to conflicts of interest. This bill, however, further conflates these policies at the Fed by giving the Fed more regulatory authority.

H.R. 4173 cannot be the end of this process, but I fear passage of this bill will preclude further consideration of financial reform. If Congress rests on the laurels of H.R. 4173, we will be back here sooner rather than later to debate the same issues all over again. I look forward to continuing efforts to enact real, comprehensive reform of the financial services industry.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER PHILIP DAVIS OF PELHAM, ALABAMA

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, let us honor of the memory of Officer Philip Davis, the first officer in the history of the Pelham, Alabama Police Department to die in the line of duty.

Officer Davis was performing his sworn duty to protect the public when he was shot and fatally wounded during a traffic stop on I-65 in Shelby County on December 3.

Philip Davis was a four and a half year veteran of the Pelham Police Department. He previously was an officer in Calera and with the University of Alabama Police Department.

Officer Davis was devoted to the law, his community, his faith, and especially his family. He felt that it was his calling to serve and protect others.

Pelham Police Chief Tommy Thomas said, "He was an excellent police officer. He loved his job and we loved him."

Shelby County District Attorney Robbie Owens said, "Philip was a genuinely good, Christian person and dear police officer. We will all miss Philip. He was a good man."

Pelham Mayor Don Murphy said, "This was a very sad day for the City of Pelham and for law enforcement all across our nation. Philip was an asset to both the Police Department and the City of Pelham. His dedication, personality and commitment will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with his young family."

Philip Davis was just 33 years old. Our sympathies and prayers are with his wife, Paula, and his two young children, Sarah and John.

In a close-knit community like Pelham, Philip Davis was a friend, neighbor, and role model.

The depth of the community's love for him was clear from the way citizens lined up in cars and along the streets during memorial services that were attended by more than one thousand fellow law enforcement officials.

All law enforcement officers and their families live with a special burden every day. They know there are risks involved with every call, whether it is serious or seemingly routine. Yet our police officers willingly accept these risks in order to keep our communities safe. That is why our officers deserve nothing less than our highest respect and complete support.

The untimely death of any police officer is a loss not only to the immediate community, but to our nation.

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, which is not far from the U.S. Capitol, is our national tribute to the sacrifices that courageous members of the law enforcement community have made to keep us secure. The name of Officer Philip Davis

will be added to this memorial so that his legacy is properly remembered and cherished.

No words can adequately make up for the loss of a dedicated officer and devoted husband and father. But as an inscription at the Memorial reads, "It is not how these officers died that made them heroes; it is how they lived."

I thank my colleagues for this opportunity to honor to life and service of Officer Philip Davis.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MR.
JOSE LAGOS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of humanitarian and compassionate activist, Mr. Jose Lagos. Mr. Lagos died of cancer on November 30, 2009 at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, Florida at the age of 45. My heartfelt condolences go out to his family and friends at this most difficult time.

Emigrating from his home country of Honduras, Mr. Lagos spent his life working to improve South Florida's immigration policies. He was born on April 11, 1964 in the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa, where he attended a Catholic high school. In 1985, Mr. Lagos and his family relocated to Miami where he enrolled at Miami-Dade Community College. He went on to earn an Associate's Degree in business administration. In 1990, Mr. Lagos began working on immigration issues as the executive director of an association that helped medical school graduates from other countries obtain their physician's licenses.

Mr. Lagos was a true leader and unifier. South Florida is a mosaic of different immigrant cultures and, unfortunately, many Federal immigration policies have proven to be more divisive than effective. Mr. Lagos worked to overcome these obstacles. As director of the non-profit Unidad Hondurena, Spanish for "Honduran Unity," Mr. Lagos bridged ideological gaps and created powerful synergies throughout the immigration community. He led vigorous grassroots efforts to advance the rights of fellow Hondurans and Hispanics, including protesting fee hikes for temporary work permits and citizenship applications, alerting immigrants to scams, and organizing charities. Mr. Lagos understood the power of unity and also strongly supported efforts to gain Temporary Protected Status, TPS, for Haitians.

One year ago, Mr. Lagos was diagnosed with cancer. Throughout his treatment, however, his spirit never wavered. He continued to speak on behalf of those who came to our country seeking the American dream. This past summer, Mr. Lagos exhibited his dedication and courage outside a church in Little Havana by rallying others to protest the suspension of international aid to Honduras. This is the mark of a true hero, a champion of the people.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Jose Lagos will be remembered in South Florida for his message of unity. He celebrated and embodied our great nation's rich immigrant heritage. The loss of Mr. Lagos is indeed a loss for us all, and for the battle for fair immigration reform.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, on December 10, 2009, our national debt was \$12,079,739,352,131.13.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,441,313,605,837.33 so far this year.

According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, the forecast deficit for this year is \$1.6 trillion. That means that so far this year, we borrowed and spent an average \$4.4 billion a day more than we have collected, passing that debt and its interest payments to our children and all future Americans.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives market, and for other purposes:

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Chair, I rise to express my concerns over the legislation before us. H.R. 4173, The Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, takes steps to address many of the problems that created our current financial crisis. However, I am alarmed at a number of provisions that weaken the bill.

The creation of a Consumer Financial Protection Agency is long overdue. Consumers need a strong advocate to protect them from the many questionable and confusing financial products offered. However, provisions put in by the banking industry to preempt meaningful state regulation threaten the strong consumer protections we are fighting for. Federal rules promulgated by this agency should set a floor of protection, not a ceiling.

Title III, pertaining to regulation of derivatives, could have been improved by amendments offered that banned certain abusive derivatives from being traded and offered better transparency to the swap market. Unfortunately, those commonsense amendments were defeated. Other amendments that created more loopholes in the derivatives markets were unfortunately included.

I was also disappointed that several amendments I cosponsored were denied an up or down vote. The Inslee/DeFazio/Hinchey "Too Big to Fail" amendment set a cap on the size of bank liabilities for financial institutions. Instead of relying on regulators to protect us from financial firms laden with risky investments, this amendment simply breaks up companies with excessive liabilities. The Hinchey/Inslee/Conyers/DeFazio/Tierney amendment

would restore key protections from the Glass Steagall Act including the separation of commercial and investment banking.

Furthermore, I opposed the Republican Motion to Recommit because it struck all financial reform from the bill, and would have ended the TARP program at the most inopportune time. I have long opposed the TARP program because it bailed out Wall Street for excessive risk taking at taxpayer expense. Now that Wall Street has been bailed out, the major problem facing Americans is rising unemployment. We should redirect the remaining TARP funds to real job creation on infrastructure because that will get people back to work quickly, rebuild critical infrastructure, and these jobs cannot be exported overseas. Wall Street got its bailout, now it's time to jumpstart American job creation.

I was a strong opponent of financial deregulation legislation in the 1990s. This undermined our financial regulators and gave Wall Street the opportunity to make the risky speculative bets that it lost big on. Reversing this trend is essential; therefore I plan to vote in favor of this legislation to move the process forward. I am eager to see what emerges from the Senate as they continue their debate on financial reform. I am hopeful that this legislation moves us back to responsible regulatory oversight. It is important that we rein in the cowboy capitalism that has too long prevailed in our financial markets.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. LoBIONDO. Madam Speaker, as per the requirements of the Republican Conference Rules on earmarks, I secured the following earmarks in H.R. 3288.

Requesting Member: Congressman FRANK LoBIONDO (NJ-02)

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: Air Force, Military Construction, Air National Guard

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: 108th Air Refueling Wing

Address of Requesting Entity: McGuire AFB, NJ

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$9.7 million for construction of properly sized and adequately configured facilities to house the base engineer administrative, maintenance, and training functions, and readiness (disaster preparedness). Facilities support daily activities associated with maintaining/repairing base infrastructure and facilities for the ARW, and mobility requirements for the 108th Civil Engineering Squadron (CES) and readiness requirements.

IN HONOR OF JULIUS E. COLES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a man who, for more than 40 years, has dedicated himself to

the betterment of people from around the world.

Julius E. Coles was born in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1942. He received a B.A. from Morehouse College in 1964 and a Masters of Public Affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs in 1966. Mr. Coles then began a long and impressive career with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

During his tenure with USAID, Mr. Coles served as a Mission Director in Swaziland and Senegal, as well as serving in other capacities at foreign service posts in Vietnam, Morocco, Liberia, Nepal and Washington, D.C. In recognition of his extraordinary contributions in foreign service, he received the Distinguished Career Service Award in 1995 and the Presidential Meritorious Service Award in 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1986. Mr. Coles retired from USAID in 1994, having achieved the rank of Career Minister.

These achievements alone would have constituted career full of accomplishments deserving of great pride and satisfaction. Yet for Mr. Coles, this was just the beginning of a new and exciting chapter.

From 1994 to 1997, Mr. Coles served as Director of Howard University's Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center, and, from 1997 to 2002, he was the Director of Morehouse College's Andrew Young Center for International Affairs.

In 2002, yet another opportunity arose—one that would fully utilize his expertise in foreign service and international affairs and combine that expertise with the ability to reach thousands of people suffering from hunger, HIV/AIDS and poverty. Mr. Coles became the third President of Africare.

Africare was founded in 1970 by two Americans, Dr. William O. Kirker and his wife, Barbara Kirker. Dr. and Mrs. Kirker had been working in Niger at the Maine-Soroa Hospital since 1966, and in 1970, in the midst of a devastating drought, they established Africare to provide medical services and health care to the people of Niger.

In 1971, Africare reconstituted itself, adding experts in various fields and broadening the mission to support not only health related issues, but development and relief programs in any African country and to serve as a bridge between Africans and Americans, especially Americans of African descent.

Mr. C. Payne Lucas served as the executive director and second president of Africare from 1971–2002, and, under his leadership, Africare became a well-known and highly respected organization. During the years of Mr. Lucas' presidency, Africare provided almost \$450 Million through development work including the key project areas of food, water, environment, emergency assistance and rural health initiatives. Mr. Lucas initiated a program to address HIV/AIDS in 1987. In 1998, efforts to better help Africa were categorized into four crucial programmatic focal points: (1) HIV/AIDS; (2) food security, population and the environment; (3) conflict resolution and "good governance"; and (4) computer and Internet technology transfer. Those focus areas have been maintained to the present day.

In 2002, Mr. Coles became President of Africare, promising to build on the legacy of C. Payne Lucas. In just 7 short years, Mr. Coles has taken Africare to a new level. Under his

leadership, Africare has received more than \$400 Million in new commitments, nearly doubling the total amount of development dollars generated by Africare over its 39 year history combined. Mr. Coles has added the areas of water and sanitation to the key program areas of food security and agriculture, health and HIV/AIDS and emergency and humanitarian response. Mr. Coles has opened new programs across the African continent. There are now more than 25 field offices in Africa along with offices in Paris and Ottawa as well as the Washington, D.C., headquarters.

Mr. Coles has successfully updated management practices and systems resulting in an increase in the productivity and effectiveness of Africare's programs while simultaneously reducing expenses. Today Africare spends 93 percent of every dollar on programs; only 7 percent is spent on administrative and fundraising costs. Africare has earned top ratings from Charity Navigator, The American Institute of Philanthropy and the Better Business Bureau.

Although Africa still faces many challenges and the work is not yet done, much progress has been made. While still pandemic, the HIV/AIDS infection rates have slowed and, in some areas, stabilized. Fifteen percent more Africans have access to safe drinking water over 1990 levels and the infant mortality rate has decreased 40 percent between 1960 and 2000. Programs sponsored by Africare in Microenterprise, Civil-Society Development and Governance, and Women's and Children's issues are leading the way towards a better tomorrow for all Africans.

This progress and the promise for a brighter future would not have been possible without the dedication and determination of Julius Coles and those who went before him at Africare. Mr. Coles could have retired in 1994 and enjoyed the peace and serenity of a man who had led a full professional life and who had contributed so much to humanity. But he chose to answer another calling; he chose to work towards ending the suffering of so many in a continent that is half way around the world. Because he did, thousands of lives have been saved and countless thousands more have been improved. Because he did, Africa and all Africans face a much brighter future.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our deepest respect and appreciation to Mr. Coles for his decades of service. Julius F. Coles is a true hero who has lived up to the highest standards, fought for the survival of others and has truly made the world a better place. I also ask that my colleagues join me in wishing Mr. Coles continued happiness, success and health in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE COMPASSION AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF MS. DIANA STANLEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Diana Stanley and to recognize her contributions in fighting homelessness in South Florida. Ms. Stanley is the

Executive Director of The Lord's Place, one of the leading homeless providers in West Palm Beach, Florida. The Lord's Place provides homeless families and individuals with a new beginning.

Beginning as a modest soup kitchen in 1979, The Lord's Place has become a place of transformation for many homeless men, women, and children in Palm Beach County over the last 30 years. In 1983, The Lord's Place expanded its services by opening its first shelter and has since opened two more shelters along with two retail stores and a retail job-training program. In 1997, The Lord's Place began a partnership with Cafe Joshua, another homeless restoration agency, to provide additional and improved services in the community. In April 2000, this collaboration led to the merger of the two organizations. The Lord's Place is dedicated to breaking the cycle of homelessness by providing innovative, compassionate, and effective services to those in need in the community.

Ms. Diana Stanley joined The Lord's Place as Executive Director in April 2007. Under her leadership, The Lord's Place created two campuses: a family campus in West Palm Beach, bringing together the Family Emergency Housing Program with the Family Permanent Program; and a men's campus in Boynton Beach, joining the day program, Operation JumpStart, with the permanent men's housing program, Joshua House.

Furthermore, Ms. Stanley enhanced the agency's internal continuum of care with two new programs. The Engagement Center provides the area homeless and near-homeless with a much needed point-of-entry to services in the community. In the first year of operation, more than 14,000 men, women, and children entered through the Engagement Center doors for a hot meal, peer mentoring, access to the resource center, and case management services in a home-like atmosphere. Additionally, the Recovery Center is an innovative new emergency housing program for single men located on the Boynton Beach property opposite Joshua House. Its innovative programming provides housing and personalized support services designed to address the issues that led to the resident's homelessness.

In 2008, Ms. Stanley was the driving force in creating The Lord's Place's Micro-Enterprise Program, comprised of Cafe Joshua Catering, Maintenance and Beyond, and The Lord's Place's new thrift shop and coffee bar, "One More Time." In 2009, the Cafe Joshua Job Training and Placement Program was born, enhancing Cafe Joshua programming. The program employs an education model that teaches the hard and soft skills necessary for successful employment. It meets the participant where they are in their process of finding a job and teaches them employable skills in a supportive environment.

Madam Speaker, I truly appreciate all the hard work that Ms. Diana Stanley does each and every single day on behalf of the less fortunate in the West Palm Beach community. Ms. Stanley has been an integral part in writing Palm Beach County's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. With her assistance, the plan was recently approved by the Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners. I greatly admire her commitment and dedication to helping the homeless get back on their feet as our nation strives to end homelessness.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under considerations the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Chair, last fall we witnessed the greatest financial collapse in American history since the Great Depression. As Main Street recovers from Wall Street's excesses, we must reexamine the laws that govern banks and other financial institutions and hold them accountable for their actions. The collapse of our economy shows the need for tough new regulations. Today, the House will vote on H.R. 4173, Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009, a bill authored by Chairman FRANK that aims to rein in the titans of finance's excesses and protect consumers from unfair and abusive practices.

The bill being considered today creates the Consumer Financial Protection Agency (CFPA) with the sole mission of protecting consumers from financial products and services. Banks, subprime mortgage companies, pay day lenders, and money transmitters will be under the supervision of the CFPA. The new agency will stop unfair, deceptive and abusive consumer financial products and services.

During the last bubble, executives at banks took on more risk because risk was profitable. No one paid much attention to what would happen when the speculation bubble burst. Today's bill will amend this practice by allowing shareholders of public companies to have an annual, nonbinding "say on pay" vote on compensation packages for executives. Federal regulators will be authorized to ban any inappropriate or risky compensation practices that pose a threat to the financial system and to the broader economy.

I am concerned this legislation does not go far enough. Specifically, today's bill will focus on empowering our financial regulators to manage and mitigate some level of "acceptable risk" within the present system, instead of correcting the structural flaws that make a collapse likely to recur. As a result, I am an advocate of a modernized Glass-Steagall act which would mandate that America's banking sectors and investment houses need to remain separate to prevent banks from gambling on the stock market with our savings.

Moreover, I am worried that consumers will not be allowed to address their grievances with financial institutions and banks through the CFPA. Banks rarely directly violate specific federal rules, but the same cannot be said for some of the smaller nonbank lenders, brokers, and other individuals and entities who will be governed by CFPA rules. Violations by smaller actors are less likely to be worth the investment of resources for a federal agency enforcement action, or even one by a state AG, but they can have a devastating impact on individuals nonetheless. Individual remedies are essential to holding all violators accountable

and providing incentives for everyone to comply. The Federal Trade Commission received 78,000 complaints against debt collectors last year and took only 3 enforcement actions. Consumers must be able to stand up and defend themselves and hold wrongdoers accountable if CFPA rules are violated. For over 200 years, it has been a fundamental tenet of American law, derived from our Anglo-Saxon heritage, that "for every right, there's a remedy." The concept is commonsense: wrongdoers who violate laws should be accountable to those they injure.

Madam Chair, even with all of the legislation's weak points, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act makes great strides to shield Americans from the despotic behavior of Wall Street. I urge my colleagues to support today's bill.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today, December 11, 2009, our national debt is \$12,092,672,900,402.34. We have increased the national debt \$12,933,548,271.21 since just yesterday.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,454,247,154,108.54 so far this year.

According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, the forecast deficit for this year is \$1.6 trillion. That means that so far this year, we borrowed and spent \$4.4 billion a day more than we have collected, passing that debt and its interest payments to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ENSTROM HELICOPTER CORPORATION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Enstrom Helicopter Corporation of Menominee, Michigan as it celebrates its 50th anniversary in the community. This company designs and produces helicopters that can be found performing a wide range of duties across the globe, while staying true to its hometown roots.

Enstrom Helicopter began with a mining engineer from the Upper Peninsula named Rudy Enstrom. In the 1940's Rudy began building a helicopter and this hobby became a passion. After years of developing and building his own helicopter, Rudy caught the attention of businessmen in the Menominee area and founded R. J. Enstrom Corporation in 1959. The project to replace Rudy's original prototypes with a better engineered product was led by Jack Christensen, Al Belauer and Paul Schultz.

In 1965, Enstrom Helicopter achieved FAA certification on its F-28 model and received

certification in 1968 for its more powerful model, the F-28A. Today the company produces three models, the F-28F, the 280FX and the 480B. Enstrom's 280FX and F-28F piston-powered helicopters are the only turbo-charged helicopters produced in the world today.

Over the years Enstrom Helicopter has had capable leaders at the helm, including F. Lee Bailey, Bob Tuttle and today's president, Jerry Mullins. These men have guided the continued growth of the company, thanks in large part to their ability to retain a dedicated and experienced workforce.

Having produced approximately 1,200 aircraft, Enstrom helicopters can be found in 45 countries around the world. In fact, 70 percent of Enstrom helicopters are purchased overseas. Recently the company delivered 480B models destined for Ukraine, India, Thailand, and Bulgaria. These helicopters are used for a variety of purposes, including agricultural spraying, search and rescue, cattle herding, law enforcement, and personal transport.

Despite its international popularity, Enstrom Helicopter has remained committed to the Menominee community throughout its history. In turn, the residents of Menominee and surrounding areas have thrown their support behind Enstrom. During its first 10 years as a public company, as many as 10,000 individual shareholders living primarily in the Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin invested in the company. This early support from the community was largely responsible for the ultimate success of the company.

Madam Speaker, Enstrom Helicopter Corporation is both a community company and a world leader in helicopter production. Over the years, it has continued to innovate, grow and provide good jobs for the residents of Menominee. I ask, Madam Speaker, that you, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in recognizing Enstrom Helicopter Corporation, its management, and employees past and present on this golden anniversary of 50 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AWARDING OF AN HONORARY DEGREE TO MR. JOHN YASHIO KASHIKI

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mr. John Yoshio Kashiki of Parlier, California on the occasion of receiving an honorary degree from the University of California, Davis more than six decades after his studies were interrupted by the events of World War II. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking John for his decades of service to the people of California's Central Valley.

Mr. Kashiki was born in California in 1919 and grew up in the Imperial Valley. John was attending the University of California, Davis when the onset of World War II led to the internment of Japanese-Americans and nationals of Japanese heritage. John Kashiki was one of hundreds of men and women attending the University of California who were forced to leave their studies in 1942 as a result of the executive order.

Mr. Kashiki's experience with internment did not, however, serve to sway his commitment

to his country. John volunteered to serve in the storied 442nd Infantry regiment of the United States Army which was composed of Asian-American soldiers who served with great distinction in Europe. After returning home, John started farming and packing businesses in Parlier, California and remains an active member of the community and an avid fisherman.

Over six decades after enrolling in college, John and the forty-six other students who were forced to abandon their studies at the University of California, Davis, are being recognized by the University with the awarding of the honorary degrees they so richly deserve. John, and fellow class members, will receive their degrees on December 12th, 2009 with friends and family in attendance.

Please join me in congratulating Mr. John Yashio Kashiki on this well-deserved honor and thanking him for his years of service to his community and to his country.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. This legislation will protect consumers, end the concept that an institution is "too big to fail", and ensure that the American people never again have to be the lifeline for failing Wall Street firms.

The failure of President Bush and a Republican Congress to regulate financial markets and to reign in excessive greed has had devastating consequences for families in northeastern Minnesota and across this country. In short, we have lived through the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. Irresponsible lending and bets by speculators against the housing market led to a mortgage meltdown that sent the Nation into a deep recession. By the fall of 2008, the failure of major Wall Street firms put in jeopardy our entire economy and threatened jobs in every community. Families watched as the value of their college and retirement investments were decimated. Excessive greed threatened the very livelihood of most Americans.

As families in my district have been facing layoffs, stagnant wages, and reduced hours, the greed of Wall Street has shown no restraint. Last year, the Nation's nine largest banks ran up more than \$81 billion in losses, and they accepted tens of billions of dollars in emergency aid from taxpayers. The culture of Wall Street led these institutions to respond with more than \$33 billion in bonuses. Where else is such reckless performance so highly rewarded?

Today, the House takes a bold step towards changing the rules of Wall Street. In the e-

mails and phone calls that I have received from across Minnesota, my constituents have sent a resounding message. They work hard to earn their pay, to pay their bills, and hopefully, to have a little left over at the end of the month. They play by the rules, and expect others to do the same. This legislation places Wall Street under some of the common-sense rules that people on Main Street live by every day. That means no institution is "too-big-to-fail", failure will not earn a taxpayer-funded bailout, speculators will no longer be able to hide behind an unregulated marketplace, shareholders will be given a say on executive compensation, and consumers will be protected from confusing and abusive financial products.

My constituents have asked me to focus on creating jobs. This legislation is part of that effort, and I am pleased to support this necessary reform.

HONORING RENEE AHLERS FOR RECEIVING THE PRESTIGIOUS FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a young woman in my district, Renee Ahlers.

Ms. Ahlers has been selected to receive a prestigious Fulbright Award. The Fulbright Program is an international exchange program that is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Recipients of this award are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership in their chosen fields. Ms. Ahlers plans to teach English as a Foreign Language in Mexico.

I congratulate her on this accomplishment and applaud her contribution to global education and international relations.

TRIBUTE TO PIKEVILLE COLLEGE SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a pioneer in rural medicine and one of U.S. News & World's Report's 2009 top 20 medical schools in the Nation in rural medicine, the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Founded in 1997, the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine was established to address the physician shortage in rural Kentucky and Appalachia. Governor Paul Patton, Burlin Coleman, and the founding Dean, the late Dr. John Strosnider's vision was made possible because of the generosity of Attorney G. Chad Perry. Together, their efforts have formed one of the leading rural health medical schools in the Nation.

In less than a decade, more than 500 physicians have graduated from the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine. Over 150 of these graduates have completed their

residencies and are now practicing medicine. Even more impressive, these graduates are keeping the school's mission alive as over 60 graduates have opened offices within a 2-hour drive of Pikeville, Kentucky. Several more are practicing medicine in the rural communities of Western Kentucky and throughout the Appalachian region. These graduates are working with medically underserved populations and advancing rural health care each and every day.

The Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine also holds the honor of ranking fourth in the Nation for percentage of graduates entering primary care residencies. The school emphasizes primary care, encourages research, promotes lifelong scholarly activity, and produces graduates who are committed to serving the health care needs of communities in Eastern Kentucky and Appalachia.

Serving as a model for other medical schools, the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine continually reaches out to other institutions, hospitals and medical centers around the country, carrying their message of hope for impoverished regions of the country. Their example continues the dream that one day every rural region will have better access to primary care physicians.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a shining example of reaching out to those in need, the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine. I congratulate the school and its board of directors on its prestigious ranking and wish them many more years of success.

EPA CARBON DIOXIDE REGULATION ENDANGERS AMERICAN JOBS AND ECONOMIC STRENGTH

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, earlier this week the EPA declared that carbon dioxide is a danger to public health. As a result government bureaucrats will now have the power to create burdensome new regulations on businesses in almost every sector of our economy. This is an important distinction. Bureaucrats, not elected officials, will be in control of one of the most significant shifts in economic policy in recent memory.

This so-called "endangerment finding" is a dramatic step in the wrong direction. If the EPA regulates the emission of carbon dioxide—the same gas emitted by every person in American with each breath—the end result will be job losses and harm to our economy.

But as if this development were not enough to raise serious concerns, yesterday media reports quoted an Obama administration official saying that if Congress doesn't pass a cap and tax law "the EPA is going to have to regulate in this area. And it is not going to be able to regulate on a market-based way, so it's going to have to regulate in a command-and-control way, which will probably generate even more uncertainty."

It is unclear whether this is meant as a threat to Congress to ram through the economically harmful cap and tax legislation—which is essentially a national energy tax—or if it is a prediction of the EPA's upcoming

heavy-handed interference in almost every aspect of our economy.

Here's a news flash for the Obama administration: this is America. We are not a command and control economy and the American people will not stand for control by bureaucrats.

Regardless, the bottom line is crystal clear: the EPA's endangerment finding on carbon dioxide endangers the jobs of hard-working Americans and endangers a strong economic recovery.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 941, 944, and 946, I was absent from the House. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Chair, I rise today in strong support of this bill.

Listening to this debate, it amazes me how short the memories are of some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. Our financial sector collapsed and millions of Americans lost their jobs and their savings because Wall Street knew it could get away with just about anything under the previous administration.

Today, with this vote, I'm proud to say no more. No more to abusive lending practices, no more to loopholes that allow billions of dollars between large firms to go unregulated, no more to a system that prioritizes short term profit in one sector over the long term health of an entire economy.

Under this legislation, consumers will finally have a Federal regulator with teeth ready to

battle predatory financial firms. We will stop financial conglomerates from becoming 'too big to fail' and provide legal and financial assistance to homeowners and renters trying to save their homes. For the first time in U.S. history, we will regulate the over-the-counter derivatives marketplace, where millions of contracts between large banks have gone unregulated for years. We are also requiring most private equity and hedge fund advisors to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission and expanding the SEC's staff and antifraud capabilities. We also require full disclosure of financial firms' compensation structures and give shareholders the opportunity to give an advisory vote on executive compensation practices. With millions of Americans unemployed, including tens of thousands in my district, we can't afford further delay on this important package.

For 8 years as California's Insurance Commissioner, I regulated the largest financial industry in America: the insurance companies. The insurance companies had one commandment: thou shalt pay as little as possible as late as possible. Many in finance have their own commandment: thou shalt build up thy house of cards as fast as possible as profitably as possible without consideration of the long term consequences. The games have to stop; it's time we created an economy that focuses on the needs of Main Street, not just Wall Street.